THE The fuging

WITS

PARAPHRAS'D:

O R, Paraphrase upon Paraphrase.

IN A

BURLESQUE

ON THE

Several late Translations

OF

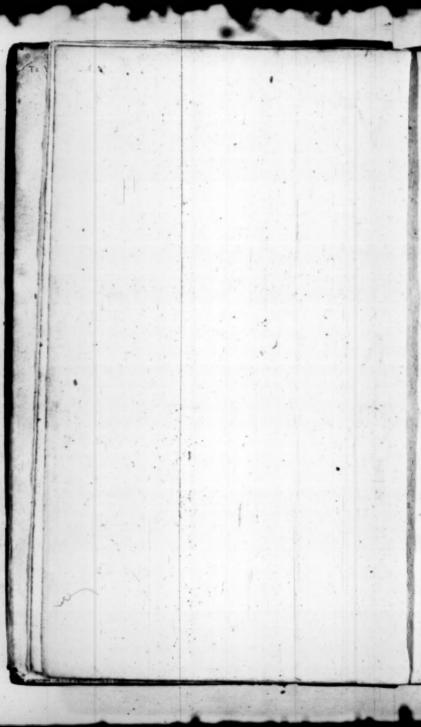
Ovids Epistles.

Juven. Sat. 10.

Et facilis cuivis rigidi censura cachinni.

LONDON:

Printed for Will. Cademan, at the Popes-Head in the New Exchange in the Strand. 1 680.



To his Super-superlative Accomplish'd, and more then Thrice-Ingenious Friend

Mr. JULIAN,

Principal Secretary

MUSES.

SIR,

I Should be too unreasonable, by a tedious Epistle, to divert you from those more weighty and serious

The Epiftle

ferious Affairs wherein the greatest and most Eminent Wits of the Nation have thought you worthy to be employ'd, but that I find a mean nonsensical Presace over a Glass of Wine, without Purging or Blooding, is not sufficient to Commend so Illaborate a Piece, without a Dedication.

Ape to follow the Fashion for any Fools humour, tho it has been done

Dedicatory.

f

done long before me in the State of Ignorance, or as the Author calls it, Innocence, or that I am affected with a gaudy Frontispeice to a mean Building, like a Closestool with a Velvet Seat larger then the Pan that receives the Excrement, or a gawdy Miss in fine Cloaths, whose Out-side is of greater value with the Brokers then the whole Body: But that I coubt so inconsiderable a piece of Paper-work against the loud rotuft:ous

The Epistle

bustious Wits will hardly be a-ble to withstand the Storm without a Supporter.

And since I must have a Patron, to whom can I better Address my self then to one who for his singular Endowments and Eminent Qualifications, is not only of sufficient Abilities himself, but bath (as he justly merits) the whole Strength of the Nation for his Support.

Be=

Dedicatory.

Besides were I not obliged, on the account of your extraordinary Bounty, who have from time to time so plentifully stored me with all the Rubbish of the Age, to give you the Tribute of my mean Talent, I ought in Civility to beg your Pardon for Monopolizing upon your property, besides your Apollogie to all our Friends for the Errata's of the Press, which you would not forgive the meanest Hackney with-

s

The Epiftle

out a Broad-side of Curses.

I must confess they are your Right, and you might have made that Advantage of them in single Sheets which I never expected to make of the Impression.

But I hope you, whom the wifer Fundaments have thought
fit to make their Scavenger,
will not leave this sudden motion
a Nusance to the vulgar Multitude

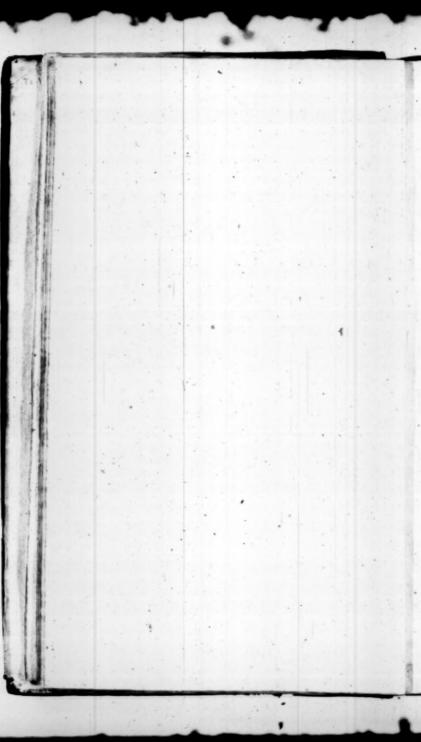
Dedicatory.

Violence, till, like the rest of your former Collections, it comes to the best hands, and if it serves them in its proper use, it shall be acknowledged a favour beyond the Merit of

Your most Divoted Friend

and Humble Servant

M. T.



PREFACE

ГО

OVID'S EPISTLES.

Hese Epistles of Ovid being so Elegantly Translated by the most Eminent Wits of the Times, I will not presume so far upon my self, to think I can in a mean Burlesque add any thing to their wast undertakings.

Purpureus late qui splendeat, &c.

as Horace fays.

Nor will I trouble your Head or mine, to know whether this great Atlas in Poetry was banisht for the lasciviousness of his Rhimes, or his Debauching the Emperours Daughter; whether by Corinna was meant Julia, or by Julia Corinna, or both, or neither.

A 2 Nec

Nec flocci facio.

This I dare with my Author affirm, That be was a Gentleman of an antient Family, and bad a pretty splendid fortune; and whether he was designed for the Study of the Law or Gospel, I cannot tell : but this I dare presume to fay, he was as smart a It it, and as good a Poet, as He or I, or the very best of his Transbators.

Nescivit quod bene cessit.

And though he had many Contemporaries, and notable Khimers in his own time, yet I cannot in all the Catalogue of Virgil, Catullus, Tibullus, or Propertius find, that ever be made use of a Club-wit, to belp him out in his Epistles.

O Tempora! O Mores!

Tet, in our Polite Age, it makes me wonder that so many able Workmen should joyn their Shreds and Thrums together, to drefs him up in a Buffoons Coat, when I really conceit (and I question not but there are more Fools in the world of my Opinion) that I in my own simple naked shape, come

nearer

nearer the Original than the best on 'em.

Quo simplicius, &c.

But why Burlefque, an old-fashioned, short-wasted, crop-skirted Fustian Jerkin, when long Robes is all the Mode? It is a plaguy thing to be out of the fashion.

Pauper Aristoteles cogitur ire pedes. But needs must when the Devil drives.

Præstat otiosum esse quam nihil agere. Well, were I a M. or a Sir C. for half their number of Acres in good English ground, I wou'd quit all my Title to Parnassus, and engage never to write Burlesque; nay, nor any thing else while I liv'd.

Cedant Arma Togæ.

Who had not rather be an Ass and an Alderman, than a Wit and a Beggar; and had not rather hear the gingling of Guinneys, than the ratling of Rhimes? 'tis better harmony: and thirty foot in London well improv'd, is a better fight, and yields more Interest per annum, than forty Disticks of Heroick.

O fortunati nimium!

But every one to his Trade.

Nemo fine Crimine vivit.

I must confess, as they splay'd the Anthor before, I have gelt them: and why not? if these Brothers of a Mystery joyn together to clip the Kings English, because it comes first through their hands; and it fall next into my Clutches, shall I not come in for a snack?

I put no Silver Plate upon a Copper stamp; nor do I set my Rubies in Gold and inamelling, to make them pass for Diamonds, but shew the down-right brazenfac'd naked truth of the matter. Nor am I half so guilty of Clipping as my Masters. Plura-desunt.

Of 24 Epistles of the Primitive Author, there are but Twenty three left remaining, and those so mangled and torn, and misplaced from the decent Symmetry of parts and order they preserved for above Seventeen hundred years, that you can neither make Back nor Brest, head nor tail of em.

Tem-

Tempora Mutantur.

For my part, I observe the Method of my Translators; and if I have omitted any thing that was proper for my purpose, it was either because the Subject would not admit of Burlesque, or because it was done to my hand.

Telam texunt & retexunt.

Tet you will say it was a bold attempt, for a Pigmy Travestie, to take up the Cudgels against those mighty Giants in Heroick; so many Briarcus's hands joyn'd against me, when I had not one Friend in the whole world to stick by me, to clap in a singer for a Presace, having scarce allow'd me a fortnights time for the Doing; as it was manifest to some persons of Repute and Quality, who very well knew with what Expedition it was run off, and hurried into the Press, before I had time to persuse the Copies.

But I do not hope to Extenuate my faults by an Elaborate Epistle, or an insinuating Preface, sa much Exploded among st

the Modern Sages: neither do I know the use or necessity of troubling you with them, but that I would not be out of the sashion.

Verbum verbo.

Hinau z rei supie arig.

I cou'd convince you out of the Caldean, Arabick, and Syriack; but I think a plain Pika, or a good Itallick, fitter for my Readers Capacity, as well as my own; and why should I trouble his Brains, with what I do not understand my self?

Verbum Sapienti.

Lest then I should be thought more affected then Learned, more Elegant then pertinent, I submit to thy Censure, and conclude with my Translator,

Brevis esse laboro, obscurus sio.

OVID'S EPISTLES.

SAPHO to PHAON.

The ARGUMENT.

The Poetes Sapho being forsaken by her Lover Phaon (who was gone from Lesbos to Sicily) and resolved in Despair to drown her self, writes this Letter to him before she dies.

Hile Phaon to the Hot-house hies, With no less Fire poor Sapho fries.

I burn, I burn with Nodes and Poxes, Like Fields of Corn with brand-tail'd Foxes.

My Bag-pipes can no longer please,
Nor can I get one minutes ease;
Grunting all day I sit alone,
And all my old dear Cronies shun.

The Lesbian Sparks must claim no part,

Where thou hast stung me to the heart.

Ab

Ah wretch! how cou'dft thou be so cruel, In my hot bloud to raise a fuel! When Youth and Beauty bid you stay, Then play the Rogue, and run away? If nought oblige but equal pelf, Go, keep your favours to your felf. Yet, filly as I am, I knew The time, (which I shall ever rue;) A time for all your mighty looks, When I was something in your books: A thousand Tales of fustion-stuff; For I remember well enough How close about my Neck you hung, When I began a Bawdy Song. You thought me chief amongst the Misses, And often stopt my mouth with Kiffes, Whose melting touch my heart did stab, In Earnest of a coming Job. You You us'd a thousand wanton tricks,
And play'd the Devil on two sticks.
We to the business stifly stood,
And did as long as doing's good;
Nor cou'd we for our lives give o're,
'Till we were fit to do no more.

Beware, Sicilian Wenches; he
Will coaks you all as well as me.
If you'll take notice of his Shams,
He'll tell you a thousand lying Flams;
'Tis such another flattering Villain,
He'll cheat you all, were you a million.
My Hair hangs down about my Knees,
And falls as fast as Leaves from Trees.
Of all ill luck I am the Pattern;
You'd swear I'm grown a very Slattern.
For whom shou'd I go sine and gawdy?
Why without him I am no body;

And

BURLESQUE.

And I ne'er lov'd to trick or trim My felf for any one but him.

Oh! if I cou'd but once more see That fubtile piece of Letchery; 'Tis not thy Love I afk, not thine, So thou wilt but accept of mine : But to fneak off when none did hold thee Without Farewel, I needs must scold thee. You might have said, you ill-bred Bumkin, God b'w'ye, Kis my Arfe, or fomething: You might have ta'n your leave at least, And not have gone off like a Beaft: For hadft thou but the leaft word spoken, I had gi'n thee something for a Token; Tho' naught behinde was left by thee, But Shankers, Shame, and Infamie.

My Friends can witness what a quarter
And din I made at thy Departure:

When

When of thy baseness I was told, I was ready e'en to die with cold; Speechless, one word I cou'd not utter, Onely what in my Cups I mutter: And tho they brought good store of Ale-in, I cou'd not speak one word for railing. At last, my passion finding vent, In a Distraction out I went, And like a Bedlam run about The streets, in hope to smell thee out. Exposing all I had to see, E'en all that Jove had fent to me; Without respect to Modestie, Forgetting Shame, and all but thee; So ill does Shame and Love agree. For thee alone my Rest I want;

I cannot fleep for dreaming on't:

B 3

Which

6 BURLESQUE.

Which made the Night more welcome to me
Than any Day fince you went from me.
Yet little did I dream you went:
For who'd dream of a Parliament?
Or you wou'd leave me here a widow,
To feed my fancy with your shadow?
Yet spight of absence, I make shift
To help my self at a dead lift.
Wrapt in thy arms the stroaks I number,
And do enjoy thee in a slumber.
Thy Words I hear, thy Kisses feel,
With all the Joys I blush to tell.

But when I wake, and miss thee there,
How I begin to curse and swear!
Then to divert my present pain,
Take t'other Nap, and to't again.
Soon as I rise mad as a Hawk
To see my self so plaguy bawk't,

I run to Bawdy-house and Stoves, The Scenes of our unhappy Loves. Then like a drunken Bitch I ramble, And rail alone at every Shamble. Then do I cast my Eyes about Upon the little bawdy Vault, Whose mossie floor, and roof of stone, Pleas'd better than a Bed of Down. But when I spy'd the graffie Bed Retains the print our bodies made, On thy dear fide I fquat me down, And with a Flood the place I drown, For to refresh the wither'd Trees, Since thou art gone, with Virgin-Lees.

No Birds frequent the Valleys now, But the vile Screetch-Owl, or the Crow; Who onely mourn for scarcitie Of Carrion, as I long for thee.

B 4

Oh

Oh, Phaon, didst thou know my pain,
Thou wou'd, thou wou'dst come back again.
With the Disease I got from you,
My Eyes have got the Running too:
My constant Tears the Paper stain;
My hand can scarce direct my Pen.
Or cou'dst thou see a little surther,
How I my self intend to murther:
Didst thou but spy the fatal Loop.
Sure thou wou'd strive to cut the Rope.
Peace. Sapho, cease thy idle gabbles

Peace, Sapho, cease thy idle gabble;
Thou may (fince thou art left behind)
As well go pis against the wind.
Cease, sool, and since thou art forsook,
What you have lost you may go look.
No more thy hopeless Love attend,
But hang thy self, and there's an end.
CONACE

CONACE tO MACAREUS.

The ARGUMENT.

Macareus and Conace Daughter and Son to Holus God of of the Winds, low deach other incestuously. Conace was delivered of a Son, and committed him to her Nurse to be secretly conveyed away. The Infant crying out, by that means was discovered to Holus, who inraged at the wickedness of his Children, commanded the Babe to be exposed to wilde Beasts on the Mountains; and withal sent a Sword to Conace with this Message, That her Crimes would instruct her how to use it. With this Sword she slew her self: but before she dyed, she writ the following Letter to her Brother Macareus, who had taken Sanctuary in the Temple of Apollo.

1

I magine I am gone to pot.

One hand employs my Pen, alas!

With t'other hand I scratch my A--In that same posture now I write,

Just as my Father us'd to sh--Wou'd he were present with his Nose,

T' extract the Essence of my close;

That

10 BURLESQUE.

That he might see while I am feigning To die, what mouths I make with straining. Tove made him fure a farting Elf. His Daughters are so like himself. The North and South, and all their Blunder, Are far beneath my posterns Thunder. Those he can rule; but his lewd mind Is like his huffing, unconfin'd. Oh! to what end am I created A Fool, to fove to be related? Or what avails his godly Pelf, When I am like to hang my felf? We yoak'd in an unlucky hour, When you your Sifter did deflour. And tho in you was no remissness, We were too hot upon the bus'ness. Why shou'dst in Bloud raise such a Blister, To make a Miss of thy own Sifter ? And An

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And why fhou'd I prove such another Fondling, to love thee more than Brother? For I lov'd too, and in thy Kiffes I found a Bait that never miffes. My Cheeks grew pale, and by my strictness I got a fit of the Green-fickness. With longing thoughts I grew fo lean, I loft my Colour quite and clean. My Strength I loft, and loft my bloud; My Meat and Drink did me no good. I cou'd not speak without a Tongue: My Slumbers short, my Nights were long; Yet knew no cause, nor cou'd I shew A Reason for't, and yet I knew. My wicked Nurfe that knew the Trade, An old experienc'd bawdy Jade,

Well practis'd in the Art of Wooing,

Found I was willing to be doing.

'Tis

BURLESQUE. 12

'Tis Love, faid the, and he is as stiff; he had Which made me blush like any Mastiff. At last the naked truth she made me Confess; my very looks betray'd me.

At length we stumble on the shelves; And what we did, we know our felves. When half denying, half contented, We met in full, and full confented; Then what with joy, and what with that Of guilt, my heart went pitty-pat. My Roguery cou'd not be hid When I began to be with Kid. What Slaps and Syrrups Nurse did vary, To make the Bantling to miscarry! All to no purpole, for you know No Garrion yet cou'd kill a Crow. The sturdy Brat, young Hans en Keldar, 'Gainst all our Drugs his Lungs did shelter. Nine

Nin

Wh

To Pai

W

A

912

Nine months were past with pangs&tumblings, When I complain of horrid grumblings; To that unhappy state I come, Pain urg'd my Cries, Fear kept me dumb. What plaguy Do they had t'unwhelp me? And Mother Midnight cou'd not help me. When thou, th'occasion of the fault, Come in as ragged as a Colt, Cry'd, Courage, Wench, holding my back, My own dear Sifter, and my Crack: That very word brought forth the wonder, And made my Haunches fall afunder. This Storm is o'er; but what is't, Brother, While the old Huff can raise another? At Council-board rock't in a Cradle, The King lay with his blundering Rabble, And through this hole, as Nick wou'd have it, The childe must pass, or he wou'd slave it.

14 BURLESQUE.

The Nurse to save his pretty Grace, Put on a zealous brazen face; With Beads and Prayers she feign'd to mutter. As if her mouth cou'd not melt Butter. In Double-clout wrapt in her lap, She through the Room thought to escape: But Pox on all ill luck, the Whore Had hardly got him to the door, When straight the Puppy fell a yelping, What Bitch of mine has been a whelping? Quoth he; and so he fell a plundering The Placket-geer like Light and Thundering. But when he found it was my Bastard, Defend me! how he ftorm'd and blufter'd? As in his old fit of the Scurvy He'd blow the Nation toplie-turvy: He kept fuch horrid noise and thumping, I knew his meaning by his mumping.

Never was Sculler in such pickle,
When Winds hold forth in Conventicle.
Then I when he began to thunder me,
My very Bed did tremble under me,
He'd murder me for your deflouring;
I had much ado to scape a scouring.

er,

But what went nearest to my Gizard,
In spite of Prayers, the blundering Wizard,
To shew his malice by and large,
And save the Parish of a Charge,
He sends the Bastard to the Bogs,
To be a Breakfast for the Dogs.
To have our bowels tore, and rent
At such a rate, wou'd vex a Saint.
Nay more than that, he sent a Bully
To catechize me for my folly:
Take this, much good may't do your heart.

A Rope, faid I? and here's a Fart.

To

16 BURLESQUE.

To hang I am not fuch a Mawking. Tour Father fent it for a Token. I know my Fathers tricks of old. Tour Father fent you this, and told To th'use of it your Crimes affist you: In fort, 'twas cause your Brother kisit you. My Father mought not been fo rough: I fmoke the bufiness well enough. Well, tell him I'll obey his pleasure Some time when I am more at leifure. And is this all my Nuptial Dowry? In troth a very pretty story. Burn me alive if I'd not rather Be torn by Furies than my Father. I wish my Sister better luck, Warn'd by my Sample how to truck. Poor Monkey! 'twas no fault of thine; It was thy Daddy's fin, and mine.

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In a curst hour thou did assail us,

Dragg'd from the Cradle to the Gallows;

Where for my fault they did berave thee,

Nor was it in my power to save thee.

We did the Mischief, thou must bang for't;

I'll follow after, tho I hang for't.

And thou, my Comfort and Despair,
Be sure thou bury us with care:
To drop a Tear if thou'rt so civil,
Think for whose sake I'm gone to th' Devil.

And keep my Will be sure the rather,
'Cause I in this obey'd my Father.

PHILLIS

PHILLIS tO DEMOPHOON.

The ARGUMENT.

Demophoon, who was Son to Theseus and Phadia in returning from the Trojan War in the own Country, was by a Tempest driven upon the Coast of Thrace, where Phillis who was the Queen of Thrace, exertain'd bim, and married bim. When be had stayed with ber Some time, be heard that Menetilious was dead; who after be had conquered Thefeus, had a furpt the Government of Athens: and under pretence of feeling bis own affairs, be went to Athens, and promifed the Queen that be would come back again in a month. When be bad been gone four months, and that she had heard no news of bin, the writes bim this Letter.

Did not think you such a Dunstable, I That you shou'd thus outrun the Constable, And stay so long from your own Phillis, As true a Wench as e'er was Willis. I gave you a month, and thought 'twas well: But give an Inch, you'll take an Ell. Thrice did the Moon her horns renew ; As many a time I gave em you.

Did

Nay

Did you the hours and minutes tell, As Phillis does, and lov'd so well, You'd think 'twere time you shou'd be throng-To fatisfie a womans longing. With all the pleasure that is in it, I did expect you every minute: And still I hoped for the better ; But there's no trusting mortal Creature. A thousand bloudy Oaths I swore, I faw thy Sculler make to shore; And all your Friends that stopt your fail, I curst 'em to the Pit of Hell. Sometimes I fear'd some old Curmudgeon O'th' Deep had gulpt thee for a Gudgeon; And beg'd of Jove to let thee snort, Tho I was nere the better for't. I clapt my hand upon my Bum, And every blaft I cry'd, He's come.

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Nay still I found some new pretences
To cry thee up amongst the Wenches:
And yet you stand upon Resistance,
And keep a body at such Distance,
As if I were not worth the longs
To touch me with a pair of Tongs.

I priz'd your Promise, like a fool;
But 'twas great Cry, and little Wool.
What have I done? I was a Beast
To be so fond of such a Guest,
Pox take all Fondlings: I can tell
The cause, I lov'd you but too well.
What signifies your flattering words?
Where are your Gods? not worth two turds.
Where's Hymen too, that old Match-monger?
I can't forbear him any longer.
You swore by all that's good and right,
By Bell, by Book, and Gandle-light,

You'd never leave me while you staid; Then hang an arfe, and play the Jade. You swore by all the Gods that be, (But what have they to do with thee?) By Juno, Venus, ne'er to budge, Till death depart, from your old Drudge. And what more than thy parting griev'd me, I like a filly Jade believ'd thee. Who'd think thee such a damn'd Dissembler? But thou art worse, a very Rambler. When you came mumping helm a Larbour, To look for shelter in my Harbour, My charity I do not rue, In giving thee an Alms or two: But that it ever shou'd be said I made thee free of Board and Bed, A Curse attend the Carrier down The first day brought thee to the Town,

And gave thee that unlucky cast ; I wish that day had been my last: Then had I di'd a Maid, and well, Tho for it Iled Apes in Hell. Is it for fuch a pickled Sturgeon, Such 'bus'ness to deceive a Virgin ? You've got a Booty, march, God b'w'ye, My Maidenhead, and much good do ye; And all the good you got thereby, You may e'en put it in your Eye. When all your Friends lay strong Devices, And get a fame by fighting Prizes, This for your honour we'll intrench, That you betray'd a filly Wench. Of all thy Fathers acts and merits, Which thou fo naturally inherits, Like him thou hast one good condition, The gift of lying by commission.

Drown'd

He stole from Ariadne's Bed, And she the better Bargan had: But I am shun'd by Rook and Bully, For yielding to fo mean a Cully. Cry, Let her march off with a Pox; We'll finde a fool to rule the fo'ks. Yet shou'd you come again, as soon You'll finde 'em in another tune : Then wou'd they fay, the Cuckold, let her Take him again, she can't do better. But why shou'd I fish in this Puddle, And with fuch Crotchets crack my Noddle? He's gone for ever, gone to pot; Rub'd off with what small Geer he's got. Altho he screw'd with other pege, When you were last between my legs, How sweet upon me were you then ?

You kift, and swore you'd come again.

Drown'd in a Flood we both were laid. That very night you pift the bed; Curling Misfortune, Wind, and Weather, That part which brought us first together; Then faid, methinks I hear thee still, I'll come, upon my life I will. You'll come, but when the Devil's blind. Can I expect you'lbe fo kind, When I'm convinc'd you plaid the wag On meer designe to give the bag? Yet I cou'd wish with all my heart And guts thou'd make a little start. What do I ask? Thou hast perhaps Another Trollop by the chops; And has by this forgot my name, What Geer I am, or whence I came. But I shall strive to blow the Embers, And study to rub up your Members.

Twas

'Twas I thy ragged state condoling,
Preserv'd thee when thou came a stroling;
Kept thee from stinking in the Socket,
With many a Twopence lin'd thy Pocket.
I gave thee all, I gave so fast,
The Devil and all, my self at last;
My Farm in Copyhold and Tail,
In Trust, till you began to fail;
Which was too much for any woman
To occupy without a Common:
Which makes me wish thee in my Warren,
For fear the Burrough shou'd grow barren.

All day I view the winds with sadness,
Ready to drown'my self for madness.
In the next Pond just like a Bedlam,
Was like to throw my self down headlong.
Nay, since you use me thus so ill,
I am resolv'd to do it still.

Some-

Sometimes I think to make a proof Of Hemlock, Ratsbane, or fuch stuff: Then to revenge me on the Elder, Wou'd stabthee through in Hans en Keldar ; Or in a Nooze of Hemp or Leather. Surer than that brought us together, Think decently my felf to strangle, And in that plight hang dingle-dangle Thy Wife, the flouts are thrown upon her. Thus with my Life to clear my Honour: There on my Tomb write this Inscription, Who dearly lov'd to be a bitching: Here lies poor Phillis worth a Million. The truest Jade to th' falfest Villain: He was the cause of her undoing ; And thank her felf for her own ruine.

HERMIONE tO ORESTES.

The ARGUMENT.

Hermione, the Daughter of Menelaus and Helena, was by Tindarus her Grandfather (to whom Menelaus had committed the government of his house when he went to Troy) contracted to Orestes. Her Father Menelaus not knowing thereof, had betroth'd her to Pytrhus the Son of Achilles; who returning from the Trojan Wars, stole her away. Whereupon she writes to Orestes as follows.

Take this, Orest, with commendation
From your own buttock and relation;
Nay more, your Wise, but that I buckl'd
T'another since, and made thee Cuckold.
All that a silly woman knew,
I strove against, but 'twould not do.
Stand off, said I, and quit my Placket,
Ormy Goodman will brush your Jacket.
Yet did he drag me by the Breech,
Through th'gutters, like a new-lim'd Bitch.
What

Th

To

1

What cou'd I fuffer more of Rack, If all Troy-Town were on my back? If thou halt left one dram of kindness For an old Friend, use no more shines; But like a Tyger come, my Rogue, Save me from this Whore-mastring Dog. What, can you turn a Tory-catcher, And see me ravish'd by a Thatcher? Think how my Father, that old Coxcomb. Fell on his Rival with a Pox to 'em; And to redeem his little Crack, Rais'd all the Town upon his back. Had he not hector'd, hufft, and tore, At fuch a rate, he'd lost his Whore. Nor need you fend a Crowd to huff him, Your felf will be enough to cuff him. Nor will you fure your felf disparage; You're mine by Bloud, as well as Marriage. Then Then make all speedy preparation

To save your Wife, and your Relation.

When the old Pimp secur'd me yours, I little dreamt of a Divorce;

Or e're to stretch my hams abroad

To one I hated like a Toad.

So well you tickled up my Toby,

I never cou'd endure this Looby.

Full well my Father knows, the Letcher,

What 'tis to love old Gony-catcher:

And I must do't, whate'er come after;

You know I am the Father's Daughter.

My Case is his; and Pyrrhus carries

A Thiefs look too, as well as Paris.

Let 'em all crack of Deeds and Wonders,

Of their high Birth, of Claps, and Thunders,

Of Jove and Juno, and the rest on 'em,

Thou art as well born as the best on 'em.

And

Ovid's Epiftles

30

And can I, having tongue to us't, Stand by, and see my Friends abus'd? I've one way left before my dying, And that's to break my heart with crying. But what does't value while he lies out? For shou'd I cry my very Eyes out, Cat after kind, I can't escape, We're all too subject to a Rape. I need not tell you how a Swan Ravish'd my Granny for a man : How Hippodame the Youth did gull her, And drove her in an open Sculler: Poor Tindar ravish'd by a Boy, And afterwards fent back from Troy. I scarce remember it, and yet Now I think on't, I remember it. So like the rest of my curst Kindred, I'm kept from thee by fuch as hinder it.

If

If

If old Achilles had but seen,
I'll burn if ever this had been;
He wou'd not, to part man and wise,
Do such a trick to save his life.

Ye Gods, what was my Accufation, To come of fuch a Generation! My Dam, that picture of ill luck, She was as true as ever ftruck. 'Tis a strange Race, while she was chief in't, If there be neither Whore nor Thief in't. Scarce had my Father turn'd his back, To Paris the became a Crack : As soon as e'er the Wittal left her, Who like a fool run madding after, He to the Wars, she with her Cully, While I was left without a Bully; For that same Booby Pyrrhus he Had never one good look of me.

Orestes

Orestes is my whole delight;
But if you'll have me, you must fight:
Pyrrhus detains me since the War'gan,
That's all the good I got by th' bargan.
All day I sit, while Gossips chat,
As melancholy as a Cat:

Sometimes I grunt, sometimes I grumble,

And all the night I toss and tumble:

At fight of him I burst out so,

I make a Chamber-pot o'erflow:

And while I flabber, spit, and drivil,

I hate him as I do the Devel.

Tho under Canopy of Diaper,

I shun him as I wou'd a Viper:

And when he gets within my Quarters,

I cry, Orest, beshrew your Garters.

That very fancy makes me do

The thing which I shou'd act with you.

Orestes

BURLESQUE.

33

Orestes, come, and make him flie for't;
I'll be thy Wench, or else I'll die for't.

D

LE-



LEANDER to HERO.

The ARGUMENT.

Leander accustomed nightly to swim over the Hellespont to visit Hero (Priestess of Venus Temple) being at last hinder'd by storms, sends her the following Epistle.

A Ccept this Token from your most,
Who'd rather been himself the Post.
Smile, Sweet; or if you win my heart,
I had as lieve you'd let a Fart.
'Twou'd be a Token of thy Kindness,
Since thy Leander's lest in blindness,
And cannot see, ill chance so happens,
Thy face, without a brace of Capons.
When Seas and Winds oppose my Team,
For there's no striving 'gainst the stream,
Then I betook me to my Writing;
'Twill serve you when you go a sh---ing.

36

Blest Paper! to what happy pass

Art thou ordain'd, to kis her A----

Seven nights, with curfing wind & weather,
I have not fet my Eyes together.
Tho I can fee, for all their pother,
As deep in Milftone as another;
From highest Cliff, tho ne'er so active,
I cou'd not spy thee with Prospective.
This cross-grain'd fit I had the leisure
To think upon our former pleasure;
And like the billows in the main Sea,
Dissolve my felf in strength of fancy.

'Twas night when first I rought the Port;
Plague on the Quean that spoil'd the sport.
When I did tread, thy poor Leander,
The Hellespont like any Gander;
And Cynthia lookt pale and meager,
As if she envy'd us together.

My

M

Wit

And

In a

Th

W

My arms grew weak, when hopes t'unrig her,
With thoughts of thee put on new Vigour;
And billows flie about my chops,
In a fresh storm, as thick as hops.

Soon in the window I-espy'd

Thy Candle-snuff, this was my Guide,

When starv'd with cold the glimmering blaze

Did make me put on heart of grace;

And more than Sops of Hony-suckles

Did in the Floud revive my Cockles.

Then looking sharp, cag'd like a Parrot,

I spy thy Hawks-bill in the Garret.

Straight thou espies, and tho i'th' dark,

Full glad thou was to see thy Spark;

And met me half way over, Rot it,

So mad you were for to be at it.

The shore I gain'd, nor did you stickle

T'accept me in that ruful pickle:

D 2 Gloath'd

Cloath'd me, and on my naked Dock
Unftript your self to clap your Smock,
Leaving your Bum without a case,
'Naked and bare as a Birds arse.
What then we did, our selves know best,
Nor ought the deed to be exprest.
We knew twas short, and thought no crime
To make the best use of our time.
So eager were we on the Plunder,
To recollect wou'd be a wonder.

'Tis day; and now I fneakt with groans,
Like an old Dog had lost his stones.
I go away as after frightning,
But I return like Fire and Lightning.
Sessos I loath, my native Cottage,
With thee I'd rather sup Pease-pottage,
Why won't Abidos then come hither?
Since we piss in a Quill together,
We're

We're linkt in body, linkt in mind;
Why shou'd not then our Farms be joyn'd?
The Seas and Winds keep me aluss,
Depending on a humorous Huff:
They lose me many a Bout, and mar all
My Visits till they end the Quarrel.

When first upon the shore I lighted,
The Fishes lookt as they were frighted;
And gaz'd upon my brawny Haunches,
As they were scar'd out of their senses.
But now they make no wonder on me,
I ambecome a mighty Gronie;
And since I'm stopt by th'weather, the Calves
Do miss me much, my Brother Sea-calves.
Oft have I curst the tiresome way,
But oftner far have damn'd my stay
To sculk at home each storm that's pelting,
As if I were afraid of melting.

If

Ovid's Epiftles

40

If Summer-blafts keep us afunder, What shall we do in Snow and Thunder? E'en then I will not stay much longer, But plunge away like any Conger. T'allay the boafting winds, I'll cuff 'em; And if they won't affwage, I'll huff 'em. Of my glad scape thy arms are proof, There I confess I'm warm enough; Or if I die the Road along, Then there's an end of an old Song. I know the Flouds will have the grace To wast me to the wonted place: Or if they don't, my amorous Carcass Knows all the windings to your Stair-case; Which fure in Complement you'll greet With tail of Shift for Winding-sheet : Yet can't with stroaking hand restore The part you oft reviv'd before.

If this offend you, use your Charms
To launch me safer through the Storms:
But when you have me in your Station,
Then let it roar, and tear the Nation.
'Twill give my stay some fair pretences
To gratise my lewder sences.
Till then, admit this Scrawl to blossom,
And gather Flowers in your bosom.
Lodg'd in thy breast 'twill be some comfort,
Altho it after kiss thy Bum for't.

Hero's Answer to Leander. By the same Hand.

Ith laughing when I read your Profe,
I was ready to bepifs my hose:
And nothing else, except your stick
Cou'd so much tickle me to th' Quick.
Excuse my Passion (Sir) for no man
Can find the bottom of a woman.

You can divert your felf with roaring,
About your bus'ness, drinking, whoring,
Hunting and hawking, and the same;
For well I know you love the Game:
Lay Traps to catch the Fox and Goose,
While you forget your amorous Nooze.
While I've no more to ease my Clog
Than Patience, med'cine for a Dog;

Or

Or with my Nurse sit down complainin gon't, To know what plague shou'd be the meaning About the Coasts I keep a racket, And fend to thee by every Pacquet. When Night draws on, I keep me waken, And light a Candle for a Beacon; Advance the Snuff upon the Save-all, Each hour expecting thy Arrival. Then poring o'er my work, I wonder, What plague's become of my Leander ? I'm so besotted with thy fails, That I can think of nothing elfe. What thinks thou, Wench, is my Leander Return'd as yet, or is he yonder? Come pray thee tell me, is he stripping, Already plung'd, and forward tripping? While fleepy as a Dog, and nodding, The drowlie wretch replies, A Pudding.

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Yet can't I from the fancy waver He's come, he's coming now or never. Then Jayl-bird-like in Grate I'm plac't, And many a longing look I cast: Each nook and corner I examine, And pray the Flouds that they may damn him When next he croft them, for his wronging And bawking thus a womans longing. Each voice I hear: if Nurse but sneezes, Or break behind in gentle Breezes, I straight conclude the wind is western, And 'tis the musick of thy Postern. At last, my comfort, while I fnort, I fancy we are at the sport; I clasp'd my shanks about your middle, And thought you plaid upon my Fiddle. My Fountain burst into a stream, But Pox upon't, 'twas but a Dream; For

For tho I think on nought but you, Without your self 'twill never do: 'Tis like a Banquet of Black-puddin Without a dram of fat or bloud-in.

Last night indeed you'd some pretences

To keep you back, besides your Wenches;

The Seas were rough: but now 'tis fair,

You might afford to take the Air.

You need not, finding no resistance,

Keep a poor Devil at such distance,

And hold that cheerful Cup of Mantling

From her, that longs like one with Bantling.

Is it for fear you shift and shuffle?

I knew you in a harder scuffle:

If it be so, still be a stranger,

Rather than hazard any danger.

But still I beg if ought befel,

Keep counsel, do not kiss and tell.

Not

Not of thy Change there's any mmour, But that it is my simple humour. For fince I fee your base Contrival, I fear not absence, but a Rival. Return ye Flouds that hither blew him. And let him come, with a murrin to him. A luckie signe! I see a Gander I'th' Candle ; oh ! 'tis my Leander. My Nurses tail has got a Drum in, And swears 'tis Token of your coming And has observed by the Grickets, Some Strangers making to ards our Thickets. Come then, Leander, cross the Ditch, That I may fay she is a Witch: 1 cannot budge without thee; come, No Pillow like Leander's Bum. To fhew I'm willing, I will meet thee Chin-deep i'th' Hellespont to greet thee.

My

M

My Thing's my own; while no one fees, Sure I may use it as I please.

A Pox of Fame and Reputation,
Why shou'd it spoil our Recreation?

How cou'dst thou from our warmer Pillows

Thy Hero leave, to hug the Billows?

In such a storm to cross the Road,

Tarpolling durst not peep abroad?

For all your boafting and bravadoes,

You must not think for to invade us;

Nor must you strive to swim when Oars

And Scullers dare not cross the shores.

I oft advis'd you, but 'twas nonsence,

For it went e'en against my Conscience 5

Yet when I think on't, in the morning

I cannot chuse but give thee warning.

Nor wou'd I have thee cross the stream By any means, for last nights Dream:

Me-

Methoughts I saw a monstrous Sturgeon,
All batter'd crying for a Surgeon,
All naked too, cast by the flood,
Which I'm afraid portends no good.
What e're it be, I wou'd advise thee
Be merry and wise, let that suffice thee.
The storm's so high, it can't be lasting;
Then once more venture a Bumbasting.
Till then, thy Hero's sate condole,
And stay thy stomach with this Scrole.

LAODA-

Pro

LAODAMIA to PROTESILAUS.

The ARGUMENT.

Protesilaus lying wind-bound at Aulis in the Grecian Fleet, designed for the Trojan War, his Wife Laodamia sends this following Epistle to him.

A Fter my hearty Commendation,
Thy Laodam fends Gratulation.
The scolding storms that scar'd thee from me,
Why don't they send thee packing to me?
Wou'd Hurricanes destroy'd their hutches,
So I but had thee in my Clutches.
In hast thou throng'd to be a Warrier,
But thou't return with Long the Carrier.
So raging mad I was to see thee,
I cou'd not frame to say, God b'w'ye.
A merry gale in stern abast her,

E

And oft I cry'd, Fair weather after.

50 Ovid's Epiftles

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A

I lookt and lookt, till by this Light, I lookt, and lookt thee out of fight. Then did fuch fits o'th' fudden hold me, That I was ready to befoul me. My Sire and Dam griev'd at the Mischance, Came running all to my affistance; With water and some Rags they threw, They made me clean with much ado. They meant it well, but had been kinder, To leave me here to the Gold-finder. My Bowels grumble, down I fit, And fall into another fit; Since which, undrest, my Coats do flow About my Ears, I know not how. Thus I run staggering round about, Like one of rem ---- drunken Rout. Put on, put on, your Gown, and Mantue, My Neighbours cry, the Gossips want you. Alas! Alas! you may go dress, talk bawdy,
What joy have I in going gawdy?
Shall Tow'rs and Knots my head inviron,
And he have nothing but cold Iron?
I'le cast my Snout or'e my right shoulder,
And be a Slut while you're a Souldier.

Paris, I wish thee nere a Rag,
Or that thy Nell had been a Hag.
Oh Menelaus! I see clearly,
Thy wenches Tricks will cost thee dearly.
From me, ye Gods, divert the Thunder,
And send him laden home with plunder.
But when you talk of Wars, you stale me;
My very heart begins to fail me.
Hellor I sear, that blundering Hellor,
Of Limbs they say a great Diffector.
My dear, if thou observe me duly,
Beware of that notorious Bully;

Nay

Nay all, to be thy Life's protector,
Lest every one shou'd prove a Hettor.
Give to those mighty men of Arms way,
And keep thy Coxcomb out of harms-way.
Let the fond Cuckold hew and thump it
Through all the Crowd to his old Strumpet.
They are another fort of Cattle;
But we shou'd fight a safer Battle.

Brave Trojans, spare your bloody Hanger,
From one that is not worth your anger.

My poor good-natur'd fool in place
Of Danger dare not shew his face.

I'th' field he stands aloof, and blunders;
But in the Sheets he can do wonders.

Let them go fight, and find a Tomb

Abroad, can do no grace at home.

To let thee go, by what the Wizard Inform'd me, went against my gizard:

When

When you were like (I heard her mumble)
To crack your Grupper with a stumble.
Be not too forward in your anger,
Or you may chance to rue the Danger.

The first that lands upon the spot,
You know is destin'd to the pot.
Be not too hasty in the heap,
But learn to look before you leap.
To get a broken Pate or so,
You'! be too soon, tho nere so slow.
In thy Retreat bestir thy thighs;
And if you fall, stay not to rise.

When shall I split my hoofs as under,
And in thy paws ly melting under?
Catch thee alone to tell me stories
Of Cocks and Bulls, and Trojan Tories;
Then make a thousand wanton pauses,
With scrubbing Gills, and rubbing Noses.

But

But when I think on Troy I feel My Spirits funk into my heel; And tho' the Winds were quite contrary, No mischiefs cou'd perswade thee tarry. All Switch and Spur, for old Pug Nasty; To hang you wou'd not be so hasty. How canst thou hope to go through stitch, To fide with an Adulterous Bitch? But I'le nere wast my Lungs upon't, Bouze on, and fee what will come on't. Poor Trojan Cullies, troth, I pity ye, To fee a Harlot thus beshit ye: I fee how Nell intends to buckle Up with her Groom, poor Hedor truckle. I fee how the collogues, and grudg The Simperings of her weary Drudg. She leads the Wittal by the hand, And he returns at her Command.

To bear the Horns he is not nice;
Obeys, and thinks he has a prize:
Now he returns, and she with speed
Receives him to polluted Bed.
We Women 'cause we cannot statter,
Must make the best of a bad matter.

Yet still thy Picture I am wooing:

Pox on't, it cost a Groat the Drawing.

That I cares, and decently

I place it there where thou shou'd be.

I talk, and hug, and smug, and try'd all

The ways to please the pretty Idol.

But by this Light and Candle burning.

If I hear not of thy Returning,
As this is drink, and by this Cup,
As I intend to drink it up,
To whatere Coast thou runs a Madding,
Since thou delights to be a gadding,

I'le

56 Ovid's Epistles

I'le come and stick upon thy skirt,

As close as ever sweat-wrung Shirt.

Farewel; but pray thee bear in mind

Thy Dowsabel thou left behind.

Pa

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I

PARIS TO HELEN

The ARGUMENT.

Paris baving Sail'd to Sparta for the obtaining of Helen, whom Venus had promifed him as the reward of adjudging the prize of Beauty to her, was nobly there entertain'd by Menelaus, Helen's Hushand; but he being Call'd away to Crete, to take possession of, which was lest him by his Grandfather-Atreus, commends his guest to the care of his Wife. In his absence Paris Courts her and writes to her the following Epistle.

To thee my Duck, and pretty Sweeting,
Thy Paris sends all health and greeting;
Tho' he (unless you be so kind)
Have for himself lest none behind.
Shall I then speak? Or is't your pleasure

I stay till we have better Leasure,

When

When fear of folks may not disturb us, And we may do it to the porpose? But if you'd needs my Pipes be draining, And by my Mumping know my meaning; In fhort, I love, you pretty Brat you, And have a Months mind to be at you. Forgive me, Nell, I am fo blunt; Our Betters have before us don't. I must confess I'm full of grief, And hope you'l give your Slave Relief. How am I tickled with Conceit, To think these Lines shall Kiss your feet? I hope, if they creep in your favor, You'l shew my self no worse Behavor. And fure those hopes can't be betray'd, If Venus has not play'd the Jade: She promis'd me for Service don her, You shou'd be Mine upon her Honor;

And for that cause I crost the Kennell,
To come here fawning like a Spaniell:
I brought my Passions here, not found 'em;
(Wou'd by the way I cou'd have drown'd 'em.)
I come but for my Due, beshrew you,
You were my own before I knew you;
And e're thy pretty Pigsneys I
Beheld, I had thee in my Eye.
No marvile then at such a widness,
Your arrows thus did gau'e my Kidneys:
'T was so decreed; and less you glory
In your own Bane, observe this story.

I was predistin'd for my Nelly
Ere I was born, in Mothers Belly;
Who dream't she did the Baby dandle,
Deliver'd of a farthing Candle.

She scar'd, the Baggage at the Vision, To Conjurer hyes with Expedition:

They

They said with Fire I Troy shou'd ruin;
But sure it must be with my woing.
For fear, they sent me to the Boggs,
To keep the Sheep, and tend the Hogs:
A proper, handsom, sturdy tall Fool;
And well they knew I was no small Fool.

In Ida's Copse there is a Thicket,
And there we often us'd to nick it;
Where there was neither Cat nor Mouss,
Nor pasture for to graze a Louse.
Leaning against a stump of Bryer,
I saw one posting through the Mire.
Such noyse the very place I stood in
Shiver'd for seare, like Devon pudding.
When straight I knew by 's Badg of mortar,
Old Jove had sent me his own Porter.
Led in his hand the Pimp had brought me
Three bouncing Wenches, and besought me

I shou'd decide the strife, and stop all Their Mouths that water'd for an Apple. He spake, and slew up in a Machin, According to the modern fashion.

When I perceiv'd what was to do,
I grew so proud there was no ho.
I view'd them round, Each in their turn,
Naked and bald as they were born.
They each deserv'd, while I did fall
Horn-mad I cou'd not please them all.
But there was one, my Mouth did water
Above the rest for to be at her.
And who think you it was? I gave it
To Venus, as the Devill wou'd have it.
Nor did I do it at her own Quest,
'T was for your sake I gave the Conquest:
Who for Reward assured assured the conquest.
I should Enjoy your Mothers Daughter.

Mean

OVID's Epistles

70

Mean while, I'm coopt amongst the Eagles,
And own'd as one of Priams Beagles:
The shepheards threw their Crooks away,
And all the Court kept Holiday.
Stark mad for me run all the wenches
As I for thee have lost my senses;
All the long night I melt like Jelly,
And dreamt of nothing but my Nelly.
What Doings then beneath the Cadow,
When I'm so ravisht with your shadow?
Sure I must burn when I come nigher,
That Scorcht at such remote a Fire.

And now my passion growing stronger,
I had no power to stay longer:
In spight of fortune, wind, and weather,
Father, and friends, and all together,
I lanch out, and away I come,
To have a fillip, at thy Bum.

Fortune

Fortune that brought me to your shore, Did land me in a lucky hour: Your Husband, goodman, did contrive all Obliging ways to grace his Rivall; And I, to quite his Kindness, took hold Of all swift means t' oblige the Cuckold. Since I for thee my own dear Nell come, Will you not also bid me wellcome? He kindly took me home, and stor'd me With all respect he cou'd afford me; Show'd me the Town, the Spartan fages, The Puppets, Drolls, the stewes and stages: But nothing pleas'd my Eye or Eelly, But the Enjoyment of my Nelly. The fight of thee reviv'd my heart; The rest I valu'd not a fart. Such are thy Charms, did thou but fend When the three Blouffes did contend,

Thou out of joynt had put her Nofe, I shou'd a Shit in Venus hose. Thou shou'd have got the golden Ball For thy sweet sake I'de bawkt 'em all. Thy Beauty bears away the Bell, And all the Parish Rings of Nell. It made indeed a grievous Clutter And does exceed what fame did utter, Thou art fo pretty, neat, and dapper, I cannot blame the old Kidnaper Make choice of thee above a Dutches, And 'gross thee wholy in his Clutches. But simply then to let you go! For shame I wou'd not serve thee fo, Nor shou'd thou scape my Claws, tis I Had got one Touch at G'ammar hi.

Come then, my wench, and I will show What mighty wonders I can do:

Let

Let us, fince thou hast got my heart, Iovn Giblets once, and never part: I might have had a Crown and Scepter From Juno, if I wou'd a leapt her: I might have don with Pallas too, But I refus'd 'em all for you. Nor am I fuch a flippery Eel, To rue my choice; I'm true as steel. Do thou bear up as true to me, As I bove all do value thee. Nor need you, tho' you are allowd A little handsom, be so proud: I am, for all your petty pelf, As well descended as your self. My Father has bin twice Church-warden, And has as large a house and Garden: There you shall see the antient Riddles How Troy was built with harps and fiddles:

The stately Courts and houses grow
With yellow Roofs of Golden straw:
Wagons, and Carts, and spacious pallets,
And crowds of people singing Ballats:
Whole troops of Dames in Trojan shape,
And wenches shining in their Crape;
Which you'l prefer before the shabby
And tawdry vest of Spartan tabby;
And must confess one Crate will tillage
More surrows there than all your Village.

I do not flant you with miscarrage,
Or that I would your house disparage:
But you that shou'd be deckt at least
With all the splendor of the East,
Shou'd not sit ragged, and condole
A way your days in a blind hole.
That face shou'd be adorn'd, my Girl,
To make solke gaze, with paint and pearl.
See

See by my Trojan Livery, What tearing sparks the Ladies be. Disdain not then, my pretty Jade, To take a Trojan to your Bed. Tove, that thinks fcorn to be a Sutler, Yet took a Trojan for his Butler: And fair Aurora to her Lodging Did hardly blush to take a Trojan: And Venus put on all Disguises To make a Cully of Anchifes; Nor rank't with him, your Husband can Be thought the better Gentleman. My fire ne're caus'd the wain to stay, And rob the Horses of their Hay: My Race are of no Nemgate-order, Tainted with Felony or Murder: Nor were they tantaliz'd in Fables, Or whipt for stealing Plumbs and Apples.

To

OVID's Epiftles

To grace your Husband, you must flatter Your Kindred Jove to mend the matter.

76

Ye Gods, that such a smal-beer Trooper,
Not worthy scarce to kiss thy Crupper,
Shou'd hug, and lug, and coaks, and flatter,
And thy poor Paris mouth make water?

What shall I do? still tongue and smack,
And I nere come in for a snack?
When you the Bantling chuck, I take
And hug the Bratt for th' Mothers sake.
Sometimes I take the Pot to piss,
And from my Bawble blow a kiss.
Sometimes I try to Bribe your woman:
She tells me I'm a sot, and no man.
If I can not your favour won,
I wish by any means 't were done,
By soul or fair, 'tis all as one.
Then in a prayer as I begun,
I throw me at your seet along------

Oh

Oh thou more bright and glittering Peacock,
Then both thy Brothers in a hay-cock!
And fitter farr for the Aboads
Of Trojan Dukes and Pagan Gods:
Either to Troy with thee I'll budge,
Or hear I'll die thy mortall Drudge.

I cou'd say more, but 't will be better When we are both alone together.

Perhaps you will pretend, and scorns
To make your Ninny wear the horns.

Oh Nelly, can you be so simple
To think your face without a Pimple?

Or change that face, or be more kind:

Beauty and Grace are seldom joyn'd.

If thou thy Parents virtue connest,

Can Jove and Leda's Brat be honest?

Yet be as honest as you can,

At Troy, she's so that keeps to one.

But

OVID's Epiftles

78

But now, my pug, Let's do a little, Now in the Absence of your wittall, He Courts you to it, who because He'd spoile no sport, kindly withdrawes. No other time to go to Crete? Ho'w obliging is a Cuckolds wit? His chiefest Care above the rest, You shou'd be civill to your guest; But you forget the charge was giv'n, And value not your flave a pin, And think you such a senceless Lubbard Can prize the Treasure of your Cup-boord? Sure did he understand the Danger, He ne're wou'd trust you with a stranger, If neither I can move, nor he, We 'are forc't by opportunity: Nay, greater Fools then he, to bridle Our geer, and fuch a time be idle!

You

You lie alone, and so do I; Lets make one Bed, and so comply.

If you shou'd on nice scruples reckon, I'll find a way to save your Bacon.

No president so like your Mothers,

That old theif Theseur, and your Brothers.

Theseur stole you, and they stole Mally:

I'll be the fourth upon the Tally.

I have a Boat well man'd and oar'd,
Able to take us both a board.
Fear not a Clamor will infue,
I've Asses, men, and Clubs enough;
And I can (shou'd the Fool be rough)
Deal with your Husband well enough.
When but a Boy, I did so warble
A Jackanapes that stole my marble.
Deiphob, and Ilion in my wrath,
With my own sist I cust 'em both;

Belide

80 OVID's Epistles

Besides all this, I have a Hector

Will read his Coxcomb such a Lecture,
That I am sure no force can harm me
Nor you; he is himself an Army.

Nay wench, you don't yet know me fully,
Who am predestin'd for your Bully.

Either from Greece no war shall follow,
Or if it does, thy foes I'll swallow.

Nor think Id'e basely lose my forage,
That prize would give the Coward Courage:
Our fire and slame shall be inrold,
When you and I pox all the world.

To Bed to Bed; and for the thing,
You'l find as good as you shall bring.

Helen

HELEN TO PARIS

The ARGUMENT.

Helen baving received the forgoing Epiftle from Paris, returns the following Answer. Wherein she seems at sirst to chide him for his presumption in writing, as he had done, which cou'd only proceed from his low opinion of her virtue. Then owns her self to he sensible of the possion which he had expressed for her, this she much suspect his Constancy, and at last discovers her inclinations to be favourable to him. The whole Letter shewing the Extream artifice of woman kind.

When Courtship grows impertinent,
You fancy Silence gives consent.
With such Designs how dare a stranger
Hope in our park to be a Ranger?
When

But

But that was only for a Spurt

And I was more afraid then hurt.

He was a kind good natur'd Devill

I doubt you'd hardly be so civil.

And do you think I scapt his force

For to become your stalking horse?

Nor was't for want of good will neither
That I cou'd keep my Legs together.
For I cou'd do with all my heart
With one that cou'd perform his part.
But that I fear thou 'rt such a sloven,
When thou art in to fire the oven;
And leave me glowing in that pickle,
You Trojan Fops are all so sickle.
Yet others Do the very Best on 'em,
Why shou'd not I as well as th' rest on 'em?

G 2

Ledz

Leda was ravisht by a Swan,
And why shou'd Helen sear a Man?
But she had Jove whereof to glory,
And what have I? a Trojan Tory?
For all your boasting and your cracking
Of Phrygian Blood, you may be packing.

Your Letter stuft with all the shams
That canting Gosips call slim slams,
Cou'd she but with your boasting buckle,
Wou'd make a very Queen to truckle.

But if I either whore or pilf

For any thing, it is your felf.

I'm none of those ill natur'd Bitches:

Sweeten a Coxcomb for his Riches

But if I follow your Worships Highness,

It shall be mear stark Love, and Kindness.

Not that thy presents are a Clog,

For Love my felf and Love my Dog.

But

1

F

But that for me so kind thou'st bin To dabble here throw thick and thin.

I have observ'd (tho' I can too Dissemble it as well as you) How you'd turn up your goggle Eys, And play a thousand amorous toys; Take after me the Pot and Bason, Nor wou'd you flip the least occasion. For thy fond tricks I bore the blames on 'em And many a time I blusht for shame on 'em. found thee willing by thy woeing To do, what not? to be a doing. Quoth I, I fancy this Fop-Doodle Wou'd fain be dabling in my puddle. Come Nelly come, you'l serve the turn, To cool my pipes, I burn, I burn: While I that kept thee from my placket, My felf was madder to be at it. But

ıt

But oh! Thy face was so bewitching
I cou'd not choose but have an itching;
And tho' it were in Hall or Kitchin
Full dear Ilong'd to be a Bitching—
Of some young Rump I wish thy Maw full
That thou mayst pray on food that's lawfull.
Tho' I am young enough, and pert too,
You must not think to tempt a Virtue.

You ask what's fought by all Mankind,
As you have Eyes they are not blind:
Circumfering Eyes make me their Center,
But you upon the spot dare venture.
Had you bin here before the Royster,
You'd had the opening of the Oyster.
But now too late, I've one to do't,
And you may kis the Rabits Foot
You shou'd a fair'd before this Sot,
Yet I'm contented with my Lot.

Ccase

Cease then to force a womans shiness. And do not wish me so much Kindness.

You think forfooth it is my Duty,
Since the three Milles strove for Beauty:
One offer'd Keys, another Locks,
And Venus, promis'd with a Pox,
For a Reward the rest beguileing,
You shou'd of me have the defileing.

But thus to gratify your pains

Can never beat into my Brains,

That such nice Dames shou'd for a Ball

Uncase their scutts, and shew you all,

Then send to me to scowr your Rammer?

Don't think me such an Innyhammer.

But grant it were, it is not such:
A Booty, tho' you got a touch:
I should be prouder of my Looks
To be in yours and Venus Books.

Jeno

Juno and Pallas gave a Fee.

And you refus'd 'em all for me.

Am I then such a Dainty Bitt?

What heart of Rock but must submit?

What'ere you hear the Rabble say,

Dissemble still, yet mind your prey,

But to forbeare's the better way;

Yet if you will be bold, you may.

But pray be private as you can,
For fear it come to my good man.
He's gon to fee my Nuncle, speed 'em,
And kindly left us to our freedom.
His Journey's long, and longer may
With all my Intralls be his stay.

I can't but tickle at his fence
To leave it to my negligence;
When he to me did recommend
All things, but most his Trojan friend,
IS

I Split

J Split my fides, and only faid My Dear, well you shall be Obey'd.

Fair winds have blown him to a Farr land
What pains he taks to wear the garland?
He's gon, yet still I have some fears
You know small pitchers have long Eares.
You bid me use my time and tool
Left me by the good Easy Fool.
I would—and yet I doubt—pox split it
'Twixt hope and fear I have be sh—it

We're both hot set; my Husbands gone; I can't indure to lie a-lone.

One Room, and nothing but a Wattle Devides between us and the Cattle.

Hang me but every things so lucky, As if the Doe did cry come Buck me.

You banter when you shou'd be pressing,

By force to ravish such a Blessing.

Our

Our sex still ready to receive,

And can take more than you can give.

I'de fain be Doing— yet 't were best 'een Give over, and leave off our jesting.

Tis bad to trust our geer with strangers,
Whose passions like themselves are Rangers.
And how dare I trust you my goods,
Who lest Oenone in the suds?

Were you in Earnest, yet you stay

Were you in Earnest, yet you stay But for a Cast, and then away, And sculk from Table to your Scull,

Before I've half my Belly full.

But 'cause I'm expert at the sport,
You'l keep m' a Miss in Priams Court;
Then of my same you'l blow the Trumpet,
And tell the world I am your strumpet.
In Troy what credit shall I sind,
And leave in Greece such shame behind?
When

When all the Town begins to stinck on't, What will the modest Ladyes think on't? You'l doubt as I lest one for you, I'll serve your self the same sawce too. You'l be the first your self will bang me, I'de rather farr your Grace wou'd hang me;

You promise heaps of Trojan Mountains, But I more prize my Native Fountains. If any of your Hectors kick me Ith' Dirt, who have I there to lick me? Medea was by Iason nubbled, At such a rate I may be bubble'd. Poor silly Devils like my self, Do often Split upon that shelf.

Your Teeming Dam brought forth a Link, Which fierd Troy, and made 'em stink:

Besides, some old prophetick Magots,

That Troy should smoke with Grecian Fagots.

I fear

I fear 'em both; nor is there trusting
To Venus in our Aid to thrust in.
They'l be reveng'd: the roreing Lyon,
Rob'd of his prey, with Death will fly on.
So great a wrong his Rage wou'd rouze,
And all my friends his cause Espouse.
You boast of Courage, but alas,
Ther's little sign on't in your face,
To turn it on thy swift pursuers:
Creat Talkers are the meanest Doers.
Let Soldiers tend their Trump, and Rattle,
Thou'rt timberd for a safer Battle:
And Hester mind his siege and Sallyes,
That's good for nothing but the Gallows.

Yet why shou'd fears my heart amuse, Had I as much wit as a Gooss? I'm modest yet upon the sent; In time I may grow impudent.

You

You hant my Burrou late and Early,
And only do defire a parley:
This is the Substance of your chat,
But I can guess what you'd be at.
In time, upon it you may chop,
And after seeds may bring a Crop.

This is enough without more shiness,

To let you understand my Kindness.

My womans trusty proof, and let her,

Who knows the Jig, inform thee Better.

Penelope

PENELOPE TO ULYSSES.

The AR-GUMENT.

The Rape of Helen, having carried all the Grecian Princes to the Seige of Troy. Ulyfles, among the rest there signalized his manhood and prudence particularly. But the Siege at an end, and he not returning with the other Captains, Penelope sends this Letter in Quest of him. She had rendered her self as deservedly samous on her part by resisting all the while the importunity of her suitors, with an annsual Constancy and sidelity. She complains to Ulysses, of their Cariage, she likewise tells him her apprehensions and sears for him during the War, and since acquaints him with the ill posture of his family through his absence, and desires him to hasten home, as the only means to set all right again.

To thy own Fen at length break home;
Send not, but with a vengence come.

Troy does not keep you now to guzle,
Not twenty Troys are worth that buzle.

I wish

I wish the Russian some stout Seaman Had Drown'd him bound to Lacedemon I shou'd not then have half the grumblings Of tedious days, and midnight tumblings. Nor half the pains and Labour take, And work and weave till singers ake.

I fear'd thy Coxcomb they did cuddle,
Which made my Spouts drop many a puddle.
The Trojans, were your Camp furrounding
At Hectors name, I fell a fowning.
When Neftor's Brat by Hector masterd,
My Ars made Buttons for the Bastard.
And how Patroclus paid for's sham,
I cou'd not chose but curs and dam.
Tlepolem got a prick ith' Breech,
And I cou'd not forbear to scratch.
What ever Greeks fell in the fray,
I straight fell down as dead as they.

Yet

96 OVID's Epistles

Yet 'tis some Comfort in the showring
That thou shou'd live to scape a scowring.
Troy's burnt, amongst the blundering sots
My Husband's roreing or'e his pots.
The Bonsires blaze, the Rockets thunder,
And all our Cabbins cram'd with plunder.
The women rive their Husbands wallets,
And sing Troy's Downfall in new Ballats.
For very Joy we're grown so lavish,
The Wives their very Husbands ravish.
Some spil their Cups, and draw the sable

Of all the siege upon the Table.

This Simois, that the Sigan Hall was,
And this was Priams lofty Palace.

Here sculks Ulyses, there Achilles,

Here Hett or torn with Mares and Fillies, This I was All inform'd by Neftor,

And how you gave the foe a Glifter.

Delon

Dolen nor Rhese your sword escaping, Banter'd the one, took th' other napping. Amongst the tents thou art fool hardy, But to remember us too tardy.

Wast thou not raveing Mad to fall,
Oth' Camp thy self, and kill 'em all?
I thought thou had more grace or wit,
To take 'em when they were at shad not to run such desperat Courses,
To rob their Crates, and steal their Horses.

You Troy have rais'd out of the Margin, What good have I got by the Bargain?

To your poor Pen it's all as one,

To Dildo damn'd to do alone,

For notwithstanding all your swaggar,

To me all's standing but your Daggar.

Now Nettles grow in Priams stair-case,

Manur'd with Dung of Trojan carcass:

H

Nor court nor Cabbin, mud, nor stone, Nor Trojan left, but sculls and Bones. What mischief can detain thee now? Am I not worthy then to know? When all your friends are homewards throng-To hang an Ars, and spoil my Longing. (ing Ther's not a Sculler makes a shore, But I enquire thee ore and ore. I call for Liquor to be nibling, And o're the pot I fall a scribling. To Pylos then I fent pell-mell, But cou'd not have one fyllable. To Sparta too who can't devise in? What course thou tak'st to practize in? Wou'd I were certain of thy Landing, Or that those Cabbins yet were standing; Then might we, (had you kept your Meares,) Know where abouts you're with your beares. But

But to be no where on the spot,
I fear, I fear,—I know not what.
And do suppect at this wide Distance
Thou'rt got amongst the wild Phylistins;
Or that you have forsook your shallop
To fall aboord some other trallop.
And tells her what a dowdy Mawkin
I am, that thus deserves your Bawking.

Plague on this jealous humour, rot it,

I'll never break my Brains about it.

Vanish vain thoughts, and shake your Crums,
He'l be with me when e're he comes.

My Father wou'd have had me truckled
To an old Fop, and made thee Cuckold.

He led me such a weary Life,
But let 'em raile, I am still thy wife.
I wou'd not yet, thy own dear Fenny
Give my Ulysses for a Guennie.

H 2 Thy

OVID's Epistles

IOO

Thy Loving Pen will make 'em flee for't, And be thy wife, or else I'll die for't, From Crete, from Samos, Rhodes, and Zants, Drunk every day with Ale and Nants, Such Troops of Raggamuffins come, As eat thee out of house and home. Medon, and Polyb, and Pefander, And gray Eurimachus the gander, With thousands more defile your towels, And feast upon our very Bowels. Melanch, and Irus the Bulbeggar, Riffle, and rummage up your Leager. In mine and their own Dung they wallow And of my Breech the favour follow. You're e'en but well enough rewarded, Your house is like to be well guarded. A feeble Gray-beard always tippling, A helpless wife, and a young strippling;
Whom Whom late we were like to loofe the Spaniell Half drown'd, as he but croft the Kennell. But God forbid till t be his Cours
To lay my head as well as yours:
And may the youth still live, and thrive,
While he sees any one alive.

The Nurse, the Hogheard, and the Hind To wish the same are all so kind, With old Laertes my protectors.

But what are they amongst the Hectors?

To trust Telemach, I had rather,

But hee's an Urchin like the Father.

I' what am I? — 'las I'm not able

To deal with such a Ribble-Rabble.

Come soon, or els the Devill burst you,

Come foon, or els the Devill burst you, For you are all we have to trust to.

202 OVID's Epistles

So may your son grow up a Scholar, And old Laertes cease his Choler. I blooming, when you gave the Bag, Am now becom a wither'd Hag.

Hypsipyle,

HYPSIPYLE

I A S O N.

The ARGUMENT.

The Defire of gaining the Golden Fleece put Jason upon a Voyage to Cholchos. In his paffage be ftopt at the Island Lemnos; of which place Hypsipyle was then Queen, famed for her pions faveing of her Father Thoss. In a general massure of the men there by the women of that Country. Her Entertainment of Jalon fi kind as induced bim to ft sy there two yours, at the end of which he left the Island, and the Queen (then big with Child) and after a thoufand vows of Confrancy and a speedy Return, perfues his first intended voyage, and arrives at Cholchos; rebere Ata mas King. Medea his Daughter falls deeply in Love with Jason, and by her charms be gaind the Golden Fleece, with which and Medea be fecretly faild home to Theffaly. Hypupyle bearing of bis Landing with ber more happy Rivall Medea, writes bim this Epiftle.

H 4

Laden

104 OVID's Epiftles

Aden they say with a stoln Cargo,
In The saly lyes pilfring Argo.
Id'e send thee wellcom, did I know,
From thy own mouth that it were so.
To break the Banes you did not stickle
Against the wind, then thee less sickle.
If you don't think me worth your Labour,
You might have sent a price of paper.

Why shou'd the Rabble crack our Sculls, Before thy self with tales of Bulls? Clods fought with Clods, sprung up and slew Each other without help of you. Poor thief, what have you else to brag on But of his Fleece you robb'd the Dragon? Wou'd I cou'd say when folks deny it, Here hee's himself to justify it.

Yet I cou'd cease my jealous grunting, Cou'd I but say you are my Bunting.

But

But ah! that hope is vain! a Witch

Has got my Bunting by the Britch.

Wou'd I cou'd fay, (but fears bedung me)

Wou'd I cou'd fay, my Dear I wrong thee.

Here came a Stroler starv'd with hunger,

I ask'd him for my Mutton-munger;

Lives he? —— or is he dead or living?

Or with what Jilt is he a wiving?

He Lives, said he; I made him swear it,

He swore by Styx, yet still I fear it.

He bid me leave my idle talking,
That you the Bulls were just now yoaking;
The Serpent spawn'd a crop of Heroes,
In native Buff, and Bandilieroes;
And by their own intestine fury,
Off-hand did one another worry.
I ask'd again, Lives he, or no?
Or prethee tell me so or so;

He

106 OVID's Epiftles

He slily kept me in the dark yet. And makes the best of a bad Market. Yet cannot he for all his Blanks But shew the baseness of thy pranks. Oh! Where are all your Lies and Flattering, So often fet my mouth a watering? What wind to Lemnos blew you hither? Or why shou'd I admit you either? Here's neither Sheep, nor Fleece of Gold, Nor is my Lemnos a Pinfold. At first I did design to trap thee, And let the Women on to clap thee; The Lemnian Girls are buxom wenches, And wou'd have carbona'd thy haunches. For two full years, e're thou wast budging,

Under my roof I gave thee lodging:
Then sneak away to play the thief,
Pretending you were full of grief.

Don't

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S

Don't fret thy self, my Heart and Liver
I'll come again, if I come ever—
Then bubbles at the snout, and maunders,
As if your Nose had got the glaunders.

Then to the Harbor with a strong gale,
You clear'd the ground tag rag, and long tail.
Of all the crew you made a Din most,
And cry'd the Devil take the hinmost.
Up to the Garret I was fled,
And cry'dmy eyes out of my Head;
Gazing as far as I cou'd see,
Till I lost them as well as thee.
Full oft I wish'd thee here a mumping,
But thou rewardst me with a thumping.
It made me mad, to think a Hag,
Shou'd give thee such a Running Nag;
Shall I clean dishes deck the Kitchin,
For one that loves to be a Bitching?

I always fear'd your Dads contrival That I shou'd have a Grecian Rival. But she's no Greek, ah can you rump it, With fuch a lewd Barbarian strumpet? Who with her spells can only flout ye, Nor can she slave you with her Beauty. She'll stop the Moon by Magick, infold The Sun, and clap them in a pinfold; She curbs the Waves, and stops the Fountains And from their Seat moves Woods and Moun-She'll fcorch your very Bones within, And make 'em rattle in your skin; She'll gore a Fly, a Bat, or Beetle, At Ten miles distance with her Needle. And in a Print of moulten Butter, Give them the Running, Gripes, and Squitter, 'Tis Form and Beauty moves the Tilters,

But the secures you with her Philters. How

How can you doat on fuch a witch, And hug a Syren like a Bitch? You as the Bulls she yoak't ith' wagon, And tames you as she did the Dragon. For all your pride linkt to this Quean You'l loofe your Credit quite and clean, Nay by the cenfuring world 'tis babbled, That by her spells you are inabled, And the stol'n Fleece of corl'd filver Medea did not Iason pilfer. It was not he that stole the Ram The Devill Iason, but his Dam. A northern lass! a pretious Beauty! To love and parents shew more Duty. Let some wild Ruffian thither gallop, A fitter Match for fuch a trallop. Iason more fickle than the weather, Can vowes nor oaths brings us to gether?

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OVID's Epiftles

You parted mine, return so too,
Lets Do't, and make no more a do.
If Beauty Birth or parts can move,
Or Breeding to oblige thy Love,
Know I am Thoas only Heires,
The very best in all the Parish.
Oth right side got by Mother and Sire,
And Drunken Bacchus was my Gransire.
These, and my Lemnos make a Dowry
Enough for any filching Tory.
I Mother am, be thou a Father,
And of the gravill ease my blather.

Your Brace of twins, those chattering Rooks
Saveing your guilt, retain your Looks,
In all things els so like your snout
As if your self had spit 'em out.
Those I had sent in stead oth' Letter,
To plead their Cause, and mine the better.
Did

Did I not fear Medea's malice
Wou'd fend them straightway to the Gallows;
Wou'd she that made a mortall hash
Of her own Brothers, spare my slesh?
Yet in your arms this sorceres lyes,
And you conceit you have a prize:

False Fool I blame, but do not wonder
What made the Lemmon wenches thunder.
Suppose the fates had us'd their Engins
To blow thee hither with a Vengeance:
What Impudence cou'd thou assume
To see thy Brats and me at home?
Thus to betray thy slesh and blood?
Hang thee, nay hanging is to good.

Tho' I perhaps had spar'd thy lacket, Ishou'd have riv'd the witches placket.

To her I shou'd Medea prove.

If Jove regards my Injur'd Love

ks

id

May

112 OVID's Epistles

May that loath'd Hag my Bed defil'd
Be by her own Designes beguild.
And may she be for all your Fleeces,
By Dogs for Carrion torn apieces.
May her old Sire, and Brothers Murder,
Be her own Doom, so God reward her.
And may she split upon that shelf,
Till in Dispair she hangs her self.

Phadra

P H Æ D R A TO HYPOLYTVS.

The ARGUMENT.

Theseus the son of Ægeus having stain the Minotaur promised to Ariadne, the Daughter of Minos and Pasiphae, for the Assistance of which she gave him to carry her home with him, and make her his wife. So together with her sick Phocatathey went on boord, and and sail'd to Chios, where being warn'd by Bacchus he lest Ariadne, and Married her sister Phocata, who afterwards in Theseus her Husbands absence, fell in Love with Hypolytus her son in Law, who had wowed Celibacy, and was a hunter; wherefor since she cou'd notconveniently otherwise; she chose by this Epistle to give him an account of her passion.

If thou 'rt unkind my pretty Elf,
I shall go near to Hang my self.
Read this I pray, and then consider
What gripeings I have in my Blather.
I

Thus

114 OVID's Epifiles

Thus we by notes confer with ease Which serve us in our privacies.

Thrice my fad Tale, e're I a word

Cou'd utter fell into a T—

I sham'd to say I was besh—

But what I blusht to speak, I writ.

'T is dangerous to resist such motions,

The Gods themselves do take their potions:

They promis'd me to send thee hither,

That we might take a Doze together;

And with a pill or a Compound,

To purge thee of the weather-bound;

Yet when I sirst was marry'd, then he

Found me as neat as any penny.

But a Fice smother'd in the skin,

When it's not out, stinks wors within.

As a young puppy learnt to fetch,

Is pincht and latht, and strookt and scratcht:

So

So you resolve e're I be idle, To make me bite upon the Bridle.

When Love was young the whore bepift her In riper years she took a glister. To thee I mortgage Tick and feather, Lets be undon, and bedtogether. How can you spare the fruit that growes, And still lyes bobbing at your Nose? But now my Beauty had no match, Shall I begin to paint and patch? I for thy Love no hazard fear, It is no Sin unless you swear. Shou'd Juno give her (what de'e call it) Id'e quit her Jove for my Hypolyt. With thee I've witht thele many years, To have a frisk amongst the Beares. To dabble in the Bogs and fountains, And drive the Beagles o're the Mountains.

To get a Green-gown while I lie
Oth' grass? Wou'd you stand pimping by?

I have a little hand wheal-barrow,
And thick and thin I venture thorow.
Drunk in my Cups I stamp and stair,
Rageing, and mad as a march hare,
And make my self a very stalkhors
A mongst the Bulkers, and night walkers.
And whilst you are amongst your wenches,
I find my self where the shoo pinches.

Is it a Fate ith' Blood that Venus
With infamy resolves to stein us?
It is a blessed Generation
When whore and Rogue's all the Relation.
Europa long'd for a mad Bull,
And had of him her Belly full:
And to her shame I had a mother,
E'en as good at it as the other.

The

The Filer Thefeus by my fifter, The Monster slew, for which he kist her. The felf same course my felf am stearing, There's nere a Barrell better Herring. It was unlucky for us Both, She lov'd the Father, I the youth: Say then two fifters are undon, Both by the Father and the son.

When first we met at Country farm, Wou'd I had broke a Leg or arm. Elensis was the fatal place, I wou'd I nere had feen that face a That face so fair, for all to see, Was an unlucky one to me. Thy Drawers, Charcole-Wife, and Wast-coat, Became thee better then a lac'd Coat. At pleasure to slip on and doff, As home, and plain as a pike-staff. Love

I Love it best, I will not flatter Because it most resembles nature. If thou but sneese or let a fart, I smile, and say 'tis don with art; Or fee thee poife thy little Tool, E'en any thing does please the Fool.

But in the Woods purfue thy freaks And meddle not with fuch a Jacques. Must Country Trulls have all the sport And starve the Ladyes of the Court? For Heaven's fake Lad forbear high Tofs, Or thoul't come home by weeping Cross.

Famous was Cephalus the Kildog For flaying many a Curr, and Milldog. Yet him Eurora did bewitch, Who left his old for a young Bitch. Under a shade her amorous Boy Venus did often occupie.

Atlantas

Atlantas lay with Meleager, And did together for a wager.

Between two pooles there is a Kennall Adorn'd with Beds of Leeks and Fennell. Thither to th' Bawdy Bank I'll come, One Bit abroad's worth two at home. Wee'l tumble on a Bed of parfley T' our wish the thief is gon to Theffaly: There taken up with Cinder footy, Then thou or I a better Booty. And there to show his further malice Against us Both, he huffs and rallys: He gave my Brothers Bum a glifter, And plaid the Rascal with my Sister. With Ducks and Geefe to find his Fox meat And left her in the woods for Hawks meat Amongst the Beasts where thou wast foster'd Torob thy Right, and make thee 'a Bastard: And

And tho' I brought him more by others, They're all his own, thy very Brothers. Then do not stand on Terms of Duty, Who left thee here to me a Booty. He did it first, art thou afraid Then to defile thy Fathers Bed? If neither frightens me, nor shames, Mother and Son are but mear names Of fear and Duty to amaze The folks in old Queen Beffes days. But honest Jove full often kist her, And made no Bones of his own Sifter. Nor matters it so near a Kin, The nearer that the deeper in: And all will praise us when a Mother And Son's so kind to one another.

Nor wou'd we keep it in the dark yet, Wee'l hug, and kiss ith' open Market;

For

For were we catch't in naked Bed,

My Legs and Arms about thee spread,

It is but Mother and the Son,

And who can guess what we have done?

Only make haste my pretty Duck,
For I e'en long to give thee Suck.
Betweenmy Breasts to get thee once
I'le fall upon my Marrow-bones,
And kiss the Borders of thy Jerkin,
To please thee I will shew my Merkin.
Nor can the Fur my Youth affright.
In love it is a decent fight:
For when with Action we grow bolder,
Shame slies the Field like beaten Soldier.

Forgive I pray this fond Confession,
And pitty, pitty my Transgression.

What

122 OVID's Epifites

What tho' my Father keep a blunder,
And my old Grandsire huff and thunder,
Tho' with the richness of the Glass
The Cuckold had a ruby face.
To love their Honours but a Slave
If thou'lt not me their Credit save.

All Crete I'le bring thee for a Dower,
Thou shalt have all things in my power.
For Venus sake then taste my Haggise,
And never mind a scornful Baggisge.
So may Diana raise thy Flame,
And every spot afford thee Oame.
So may the little Country Cracks,
Fall all before thee on their Backs,
And all the Milk-maids Piggins burst
In heat of Love to quench thy Thirst.

Mil-

BURLESQUED.

123

Millions of Tears I joyn with Cries.

Which as thou readst with those dear Eyes,

Think that thou sees the Floods that rise

To wish thee here between my Thighs.

DIDO

DIDO ÆNEAS.

The ARGUMENT.

Æneas the Son of Venus and Anchifes, baving at the Destruction of Troy, Saved bis Gods, bis Father, and Son Ascanius from the Fire, put to Sea with twenty Sail of Ships, and baving been long toft with Tempefts, was at last Cast upon the Shoar at Lybia. where Queen Dido flying from the Cruelty of Pigmalion ber brother, who had killed ber Husband Sicheas) bad lately brilt Carthage. She entertained Tineas and his Fleet with great Civility, fell paffionately in love with bin, and in the end denied bim not the Last Favours. But Mercury admonishing Æneas to go in Search of Italy (a Kingdom promised to him by the Gods) be readily prepared to obey bim. Dido foon perceived it, and baving in vain try'd all other means to engage him to ftay, at last in despair writes to bimas follows.

O in the Fallows of Menander The mournful Goofe gaggles for Gander. Not Not that I doubt a greater Mischance, Or hope t' enjoy thee at this distance; But having lost my better half, Why should I fear to cast my Calf?

'Tis then decreed poor Dido's left
Of thee, and all thou hast bereft.
While thou designs amongst such Trumpery
Had rather have thy Room then Company.
Nor can my kindness yet restrain you,
You seek a Whore that would refrain you.
You shun your old Friend for a new one,
See what you get by playing Truant.

be

ty n-

a-c-lyne

yor

Suppose unto your wish you landed,
Then like a Coxcomb be Disbanded;
What Cully is so void of Sense
To hope to find an honest Wench?
Yet you refuse your old Cunabling,
And in new holes love to be dabling.

126 OVID's Epiftles

When will your Truls fuch pleasure show
As mine, above, or yet below?

If twenty such you chance to see,
You'l never find the like of me.

For oh! I burn alive, Pox rot 'em,
With those same things as I had got 'em.

Heneas is my daily Theam,
And all the night of him I dream.
Yet he (ungrateful) is abscond,
Fool that I was to be so fond.
My self alone can nothing do,
Which makes me oftner wish for you.

Oh! Cupid, pitty me, and make
Thy Brother kinder for my fake.
I'me raging mad to think that Venus
With such a Scoundrel shou'd bestein us;
Such an unluckey Harlots Bird,
Thou Venus Son? thou Venus T——, d,

Sprung

Sprung from the Droppings of a Dish-clout,
Or from the Scummings of a Piss-pot.
Drawn in a Flood from her Inferiors,
She blew thee out of her Posteriors,
Which made a Bouncing and a Rottle,
Like windy Ale in strait-mouth'd Bottle;
A noise like that makes neighbouring Nation
Take snuff in Nose, and fall in passion.
That rais'd the Billows with a Powder,
A Hurricane cou'd not be lowder.
Yet rather then thou shou'd be packing,
I wou'd dispence with all thy cracking

Thou dost deserve to hang, thy swingers
And thee, but I'le not 'file my Fingers.
By shunning me you fall in Chinks,
The more you stir the worse it stinks.
Stay but alittle till the Tide
Be turn'd, and I am satisfi'd

g

Stay

OVID's Epiftles

Stay only while your blood does Flow, And when it's out, then freely go.

128

Know'st thou not yet the many dangers In unknown Pools do happen Strangers? The Fire-Ships flaming in the Center, How are you then so bold to venture? Which were it fafe from Node or Shanker. A thousand Mischiefs in it Anchor. In that Abys the Fates have Engines For to revenge you with a Vengeance. There all your Mains Chance often Nicks, To pay at last for all your tricks, Thus I thy fafety do propound, And clapt my felf to keep thee found. False as thou art I'de not contrive Thy Death to have thee rot alive. I rather (asthou dost defign) Thou liv'd to be the cause of mine. Shou'd

Shou'd thou be Poxt by any Woman, (But Heav'n I pray forbid the Omen) While for Revenge my Fury cries out, My very Ghost wou'd pull thy eyes out. Foaming at mouth think how I rore, And bait thee like a Butter-whore. Shou'd Pains and Ulcers then like Thunder Seize thee and tear thy Soul afunder, What coud'st thou say in thy defence, But 'tis what I deserv'd long since?

Lest this should happen, be no Ranger, But stay at home to shun the danger. Think of thy Brats, if not thy Granfire, For me thou'lt have enough to Answer. What have they done that thou'lt be ganging? Was't to be drown'd they scap'd a hanging? But thou preferv'd not Son nor Father, But Wind to fill an Empty Blather.

d

Thy

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Thy Tales of Troy were all Romances. Nor I first gull'd amongst thy Wenches. Did you not leave among the Bogs Your own Creusa to the Dogs? This Cruelty my heart did fire, That thou shou'd deal so basely by her, Nor do I doubt for fuch abuses. (Tho' you pretend a thousand 'scuses) The Fates conspir'd with Sea and Wind To Plague, and serve thee in thy kind, Thy tattard Crew, those lean Rascallions, Those loufy frirv'd Taterdemallions, Like drown'd Rats cast ashoar I fed. And made thee free of Board and Bed. To fuccour them at fuch a Seafon Was kind, the rest was out of reason, Curst be the Shower that did Pelter, When to the Ditch we went for shelter,

The Dairy wenches, and the Milk-Maids
That little knew thy knack to Bilk Maids,
When they began to tune their Pallets,
I thought had fung our Wedding Ballets.
But now I find the Fury's Barked,
The lamentation of bad Market.

Oh Honesty! where art thou Banisht?

Exact thy due from him that's Vanisht;

By Death redeem my Reputation,

And let my Ghost blow up the Nation.

Close by my Thighs, a gloomy thicket
Lies languishing for thee, my Pricket.
There reath'd with flowers longs to be at you,
Altho' it were but with your Statue.

Last night methought he scratcht my Bum,
And twice he cry'd, my Dido come.

She comes indeed, and hears thy Summons,
But cannot brook your single Commons.

K 2 For-

Forgive the wrongs thy Bed I offer'd, Thou askt no sooner then 'twas proffer'd. Thy Mother Bawd, and Sire who is Chief Of all the Pimps, did all the Mischief.

He came of such a noble Race,

I wish I had him by the face.

But ill luck got me by the Scut,

And as it open'd let it shut.

My fool, my Brother slew at th' Altar,
He took his Goods, and left a Halter.
Friendless and Pennyless with Rumping
I clear'd the ground, and went a mumping
To Forreign Countreys, where my Brother
Cou'd not discern me from another.
And here a Stroler from the Tenants,
I bought this spot to do my Pennance,
With all the Garden-Plats and Ditches,
To entertain thee and thy Bitches.
And

And rais'd these Walls by Thest and Plunder, To all my Neighbours fear and wonder: But most their fear, for much they dread The Roof will fall upon their head. And now they Arm with Spade and Shovel With Topfy-turvey to unruffle. I must have a man to find me Mortar, A Woman's but a weak supporter, And yet a thousand Gulls a Drinking Wou'd for my fake keep all from finking; Who tho they offer Sheep amd Mutton To thee, I value not a Button. To Proud Hyarbas let me Sail, (For this must be if we sell Ale) Or to my Husbands Murd'rer leave me, What Eve fees not, Heart cannot grieve me. Go then fond Rustick, trace the Mildews, But leave behind your Tools and Dildoes. Touch

OVID's Epistles

Touch not that Spot, who art not such, Thou with a pair of Tongues should touch.

Thy bawdy fift it more disdains

That e're it caught me by the Reins.

134

Perhaps my greatest shame's to come,
Since thou lay pelting at my Bum.

My Souderkin and I (God wot)

Must both together go to Pot;
And tho' unborn, with guiltless Mother,
Resolve to dye with one another.

Some God thou saist sent thee aground,
Wou'd I 're as sure of twenty Pound,
Or the same God, bestrew his Garters,
Had found thee out some other Quarters.

But whether 'twas a God or Devil,
No thanks to them, you found me Civil.

Nor do I doubt but he the Calf

That put thee on, will bring thee off.

You're

You're bound to Tiber for new plunders, And there you hope to purchace Wonders. But when thou'rt there thou'lt be at best, I fear me, but a forry Guest.

Yet it may live to bauk thy Fleet,
When thou hast nere a nose to see't.

A Crown in ready is my Dower,
Here thou art safe a Conquerour,
Here thou may Fix thy Troy and Historys,
And young Ascanius get a Mistress,
And while we sleep in a whole skin,
Bring Grist to Mill, and make no din.

By Cupid's Arrows I adjure thee,
And all the Gods that forward four thee,
As thou dost pitty one unhappy,
That has no crime, but that she clapt thee;
Come home with all the speed you can,
What is a Miss without a man?

I am not spawn'd from fierce Achilles, Nor did my Parents owe thee Malice. To be thy Wife if 'tis offence, I'm fatisfid to be thy Wench. To have thee here upon the spot, What would I be? What wou'd I not?

Our Libian Coasts do know our Seasons, When you may best Ship off your Peasants. Refer it to my care and leafure, When you are fafe then use your pleasure. Your weary Slaves would be content; Their Shirts are torn, and Masts are spent. If by the nose I canot lead thee, What Merit can't, let Love persuade thee.

Stay till I learn a while to juggle, And give me time with grief to struggle, If not, know this___I'le neer endure A Malady admits no cure.

My

M

Pl

My Life's too weak, the Devill too ftrong on't, I'll hang my felf, ther's short and long on't.

Death holds my pen, and stops my Eyes While crose my Lap the halter lyes. I Scow'r for very fear with thinking My windpipe thort will spoil my drinking. My funerall pomp will cost thee faire To pay't with threepence worth of ware. Thy Gift! A Rope light on the Tool Is e'en too good for such a Fool.

To no new wounds I make a buzzle, The old Noose Love has stopt my guzle. And thou dear Nanny make a shift To help me out at a dead Lift, And all my Neighbours with a scritch Be fure to throw me in some Ditch; But lay me not my Husbands grave in, Because with Horns I did beslave him.

Write

138 OVID's Epiftles

Write only this short Epitaph.

Here Dido lyes that lov'd to quaff,

Eneas left me rope, the Elf,

And I did fairly hang my self.

THE

BURLESQUED.

139

The Foregoing

EPISTLE

OF

DIDO

TO

Æ N E A S,

By another hand.

So in the fallows of Menander,
The mournfull Goos gaggl's for Gander.
Not that I doubt a greater mischance,
Or hope t'enjoy thee at this distance;
But

OVID's Epistles

But having lost my better half,
Why shou'd I fear to cast my Calf?

140

And so forward, for it is so like the former Epistle, that one may indifferently serve for both, and I am loath to trouble the Reader with needless Repetition.

Acontius

ACONTIUS TO CYDIPPE.

The ARGUMENT.

Acontius in the Temple of Diana at Delos (famous for the refort of the most Beautifull Virgins of all Greece) sell in Love with Cyclippe, a Lady of Quality much above his own; not daring therefore to court her openly he found this Device to obtain her: He writes upon the fairest Apple that con dhe procured a Couple of verses to this Effect.

" I sweare by chast Diana I will be

" In facred wedlock ever joyn'd to thee.

And throws it at the feet of the young Lady. She fuspecting not the Deceit takes it up, and reads it, and therein promises her self in Marriage to Acontius, there being a Law there in force, that whatever any person should swear in the Temple of Diana of Delos, should stand good and be inviolably observed.

But her Father not knowing what had past, and haveing not long after promis'd her to another, just as the solemnities of Marriage were to be performed, she was taken with a sudden and violent sevour, which Acontius, endeavours to perswade her was sent from Diana as a punishment of the Breach of the Vow made in her presence. And this with the rest of the Arguments which on such an occasion wou'd occur to Lovers, is the subject of the following Epistle.

V

A

Y

1

7

Read freely this my pretty Dearing,
And leave your bounceing and your
Read it I fay, for I wou'd fain (fwearing)
That we shou'd both be out of pain,
And after all your Mercury
You shou'd be found to do with me.
Why do you blush like any Bear,
As when you in the porch did swear.
To speak the truth you need no drivell,
For speak the truth, and shame the DevilBut be asham'd to steal, for I
My pretty Soul mean honestly.
Oh.

e

a

Oh! think upon those words were slipping.

And the late Motto of the pippin,

When to your feet it came a tripping

And you the Apple fell a gripping.

There you will find the Oaths and Curses,
Which if we mind our health or purses,
You ought to have so great a Care
That you perform 'em to a hair.
Diana heard your vows alone,
That Chit will tell you of your own.
You'd better farr to say, and hold
Then to provoke so rank a scold.

My fears for thee do make me jealous,
And fierce Desire's blow up the Bellows.
For hope you gave, you can't deny it,
The Nymph was by to justify it.
She was, and heard you every Tittle
In lucky hand she blew a Spittle.

Her

OVID's Epifiles

Her Statue bow'd and play'd at noddy, And gave confent to yield your Body.

T44

Now if you please accuse the Cheat,
But say 'twas Love that did the seat.
For by that cheat what more was ment,
But to cheat you by your own consent?
What you a Crime, I count a glory,
Since Loveing you is all the story.
Such Crimes with pride I will persue,
If I can have my Ends of you.

Nor am I practis'd in the flys

And webs to 'tangle Virgin flys.

Nature taught me, and you know Nature

Did not defigne to cog, nor flatter.

I laid the Bait, you bit the fly,

And Love a finger had ith' Pie.

For Love stood by, and did indite

The very words that I did write.

Again

Again I write Love, holds the Taper, He guides my pen, and rules my paper.

Again I fend you such sweet mater,
As I'm afraid will make you water.
But if for this your slave you damn,
I'll nere be less then what I am.
Oh! that I thus might still be guitly
In finding out new ways to tilt thee.
A Thousand paths lead to that Valley,
And shall I stand on shall I? shall I?
I'll break throw, all the stops that may be,
Faint heart did never kis fair Lady.

But what of this will be the Close,
For me the Lord of Oxford knows.
Yet if we Mortalls have a Mother
You must be mine one way or other.
If Art shou'd fail, I'll make a Riot,
And ravish thee, if thou deny it.

1.11

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I'll do it in a manner ample

As e're the Worthys gave Example.

I too-But hold - I shall be nub'd

Then be it so

For let me be or hang'd or grub'd,

Who wou'd not for a single touch

Venture to take one gentle stretch?

If you were not a little proud,

Id'e court you in the Common Road,

Nor wou'd I go about the Bush,

But take thee at the very push.

But thou art such a pretty Pad,

It is enough to make one Mad.

Those Eyes which do outshine a Custard,

Which we may feast on without Mustard;

Those Arms as cleer as Foot of Kite

(Which shou'd be mine had I my Right)

That

T

N

Bu

To

You

I h

That comely Confidence and grace
With liveing Brass that Paints thy face;
Those feet like Thetis in the flood,
Inch deep with dabbling in the mud,
And somthing els that I cou'd name,
But have not yet beheld the same;
With all the rest in sober sadness,
Do serve but to encrease my madness.
Cou'd I but see 'em all together,
Wou'd make my heart light as a feather.

No Wonder then your Beauty's such
That I shou'd long to have a touch.
Now be as angry as the Devil,
I cannot help the standing Evil.
But give me leave before your face,
To lay the Fiend your Spell did raise.
Your pardon prostrate at your A--hole,
I humbly beg, who am your Vassall
L 2 With

With a fresh stream your Rage I'll cool
And lay the Tempest of your pool.
To Love why are you so severe?
While to the slower the point I rere,
Summond by Beauty to appear
For all my faults Id'e suffer there.

By pride do not my fancy pall,
Beware, for pride will have a fall.
Your fetters too — But they alas!
Like Munkey tye me by the A—
To bear it all, do what you can,
You'l find I am fo much a Man.
Then will you fay when I can get it,
Who loves it better, Sure must eat it.
And fince for me yo've don all this
I'll be thy own Lyndabridis,

But if all this shou'd not be takeing Dina was at Bargain making.

And

And sh'has a plaguy Reach at Lyes,
And punishing of perjuryes.

I dread to hide, and dread to utter,
Least for my self you'd think I mutter.
But now 'tis out—'tis only this,
You fain wou'd be anothers Miss.
The pimp stays waiting in the port,
But the chast Nymph prevents the sport.
And when you are upon the peg,
The Cramp still holds you by the Leg.
Forbear, forbear thus to provoke her,

Forbear, forbear thus to provoke her,
Which you may yet, if you'l but stroak her
Forbear that sace by two much strictness,
To stain with green, or yellow sickness.
Preserve those Looks (if Fates say truth)
Design'd a Dish for my own tooth.
Let these fresh Cheeks their Colour put on
That once might rost a Brest of Mutton.
L 3 But

150 OVID's Epiftles

But if our Die is in her fits,

Because you do not mind your hits.

Let me be haunted with that spirit,

My back is broad enough to bear it.

It makes my very Bowels quake

To think thy singer shou'd but ake.

For ah! how am I rack't and tortur'd!
And every Minute drawn and qarter'd!
Sometimes it twifts me in the nose
To think that I shou'd be the cause.
And beg my Dina for your sake
To lay the Burden on my Back.

But ah! in vain I do contrive all,

For now perhaps you hug my Rival;

Under pretence to ease your pain,

He takes you in the merry vein;

Trys how your pulses beat before,

Trys how your pulses beat before,
 And slips his saucy fift down Lower.

Kiffes

Kisses your hand, turns up your heels,
 And what he cannot see he feels.

You faucy Rascall who made you So bold, to rob me of my Due? For you are mine, so is that Bosome, For thee to reap did never blossom. Take, take away your bawdy pawes, That (sirrah's) for your Master, sauce; Tho' she's intail'd on you, yet she Made o're her Copy-bold to me. You must not argue on that point For now your Nose is out of joynt.

This my Cydippe is the Devil

That is the cause of all our Evil,

And makes our Dina sall a hussing

To break your vows for such a Russian.

My Dear forbid him then your house,

And you are safe as Church in Mouse.

4 The

Then keep the Oaths and Vows you mumbl'd Which Dina heard and understumbl'd.

Then sear not she will cool thy Liver,
And be as good a friend as ever.

Some patiently turn up their Bum
And kis the Rod when they have don,
And tho' a Lye deserves a Lashing,
Shun being forsworn, and save a slashing.

Why do 'ye your parents crimes inhaunce,
And keep the fools in ignorance?
Then be not mealy mouth'd, but scatter
The sum and substance of the matter.
Oh tell thy Dam how I was Smitten
With thy sweet face, thou with the pippin!
She cannot call me Knave or Cheat,
Nor choose but smile at the conceit.
Marry sheel say with all my heare,
Marriage and hanging do impart

A

A fecret tye of Destiny;

If 't pleases them it pleases me.

But if she ask from whence I came,

Of what Degree, Estate, or Fame,

Tell her, to satisfie the Dame,

I'm not asham'd to shew my Name.

Had you not vow'd, and made such tenders,

And swore the Temple out at windors,

I'm good enough, though ne'er a Ragon

To Lard your Pullet with my Bacon.

This in my Dream Diana mutter'd,
And Cupid's Shafts about me flutter'd.
Go Fool, said they, leave off your dodging,
This Bill a Deux send to her Lodging.
Obey 'em both, for I am wounded
By the young Rascal most consounded.
Which if you pitty, she the faster
Who broke your head will give a Plaister.
Then

154 OVID's Epistles

Then to the business we will settle, You full of Hope, I full of Mettle. In Triumph then we'll cross the Fields, With all the Crowd about our heels. To th' Temple-Porch, where I will make A Pippin Present for thy sake: I'le throw whole Pecks about the street In Memorandum of the Cheat; And on the Apple I'le inscribe This Wedding Posey for my Pride, Know all men by these Presents, bence Cydippe is an honest Wench. I would write more but that your Pains Give me the Running of the Reins, And you're so weak I'le not persue you For fear lest I should overdo you.

CYDIPPE

CYDIPPE HER ANSWER TO ACONTIUS.

Read your Note, tho it was Blunt,
Nor did I swear as I was wont.

Nor had I valu'd it a whit,
But that I seard the peevish Chit.

You deal it seems with no small Bodies
That to your friend have got a Goddes.

Is she so Chast to plague a Virgin,
She rather ought t have been my Surgeon.
But I have still the luck to deal
With Carrion Beef instead of Veal.
I'm sick I think oth Mulligrubs,
Eating chopt Hay with Sillabubs.

156

I languish so with inward Blisters
I find no ease in Drugs nor Glisters.
I write, I vow t'ye, in such pain,
I'm ready to drop down again.
And what most racks my Pia mater,
Least ought but Nurs shou'd watch my water.
To gain me time she plays at Trap,
And tells my Friends I've ta'en a nap.
More pain for you I cou'd not suffer,
Tho' you had Goods to fill my Coffer,
Beauty and love conspire together,
'Twere happy had I ne'er known either.

Whilst with your Rival you are gabling,
I lose my Fame by your damn'd babling.
While two Dogs strive about the Bone,
A third comes in and leaves them none.
Thus while your Titles you confound,
Betwixt two Stools I fall to ground.

The

The day draws on, and I must marry: My Parents prefs, nor can I tarry. But whilft the Groom waits at the port, Death steps between, and spoils the sport. Some call it Chance, and some disparage The Gods, to fay they cross my Marriage. While some do censure, from your Fob You gave a Philtre did the Jobb. If you're so good at poysoning those That are your Friends, who'll be your Foes?

Wou'd I to Church ne'er found the way, Or that I'd broke my neck that day. When in your Port we fixt our Anchors, We were afraid of nought but shankers. Twice did cross winds oppose us there, Cross did I say? No they were fair. Those Winds were fair our Course withstood, It's an ill wind blows no one good.

Yet

Yet to see Delos I was willing,
Tho' for a Wind I'de giv'n a shilling.
By Tenos Isle and Mycene
We came to Delos by long Sea.
And much I fear'd your Land of Faries
Wou'd vanish with their Cows and Daries.

At night we Land, though not worth three-(pence,

The Maids made me as fine as fi-pence;
Then to artend the shitten com sh

We go, and I throw in my Mite.

And while my Parents made Preamble
Of Grace, my Nurs and I did ramble.

We saw all things we could come at,
Pictures, and Wonders, God knows what.

But whilst those Rarities I spy,

Acontius had me in his Eye;

And there while on my looks he sed,

A Sheeps Eye cast from a Calfs head,

Now

Now to the Spire we make a hault, Which fure should be no Bawdy Vault. With him no fooner did I grapple, But there I found the treacherous Apple. With this defign-I vow and fwear. Ah me! what do I do?___I fear Again I'm like to be forfwore, But there's enough of that before. The name of Wife made me fo great That I was tickled with conceit. Why should you cheat a filly maid At fuch a rate, and play the Jade? Is then the Nymph oblig'd to that, Without a touch you know of what? The will was good, why did you fear, You might believe tho' I did not swear. Yet have I still a damn'd suspicion That I am in an ill Condition. Thrice

160 OVID's Epiftles

Thrice Hymen came to pick our locks, But thrice he parted with a Pox. And Dina still would Rule the Rost, My Parents gave me o're for lost.

When ignorance does still excuse me?

Canst thou, even thou with all thy wit,

Canst thou oblige her with a Bit?

When to her canst thou bring a fee

That will excuse both thee and me?

Nor think thy Rival is allow'd

A greater favour then the Crowd.

For tho' he comes without refiltance,

I make the Rascall know his distance.

If he but steal a kiss, he blushes,

And strait his Nose with water gushes:

He once had courage to beseech,

I bid the Fool go kiss my Breech.

Tis

Tis fuch another Nincompoop, I fleep, and he begins to droop. He fees, yet keeps his Eyes a winking, Says nought, but pays it off with thinking. He's full of grief, I full of pain, And all this for a Rogue in grain. Your Worship writes for leave to come, To kis the back side of my Eum. With finger in your mouth I warrant You'd have another sleeveless Errand. But thou'lt repent when thou dost see The Trophies of thy cruelty. My flesh is tawny, Cheeks grow dapple, Like the Completion of your Apple. Now Lad, thou wou'dst repent my swearing And hardly think me worth thy wearing. To Delos then wou'd hast to Ease thee And beg the Goddess to release thee. O: Or in thy Cranny keep a puther By new Oaths to outswear the other.

No means for health my Nurse omits,
And still I have my wonted sits.

We ask the Wiseman, he replying
Can any better come of Lying?

The Gods are on thy side; In thee
To be so kind what can they see?

But so it is — and I must buckle,
Under thy Foot-stool for to truckle.

Since its my Fata thou must be mine,
I'le say no more but I am thine.

My Mother now does understand me,
How with an Apple you trapan'd me.
What I have said in this Condition
I fear I've gone beyond Commission,
And said already more to thee,
Then what become my Modesty.

But

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But lately fince I took my portion, And now I find a sudden Motion. Be true, and set thy heart at rest, I'll say no more, few words are best.

FIXIS.

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